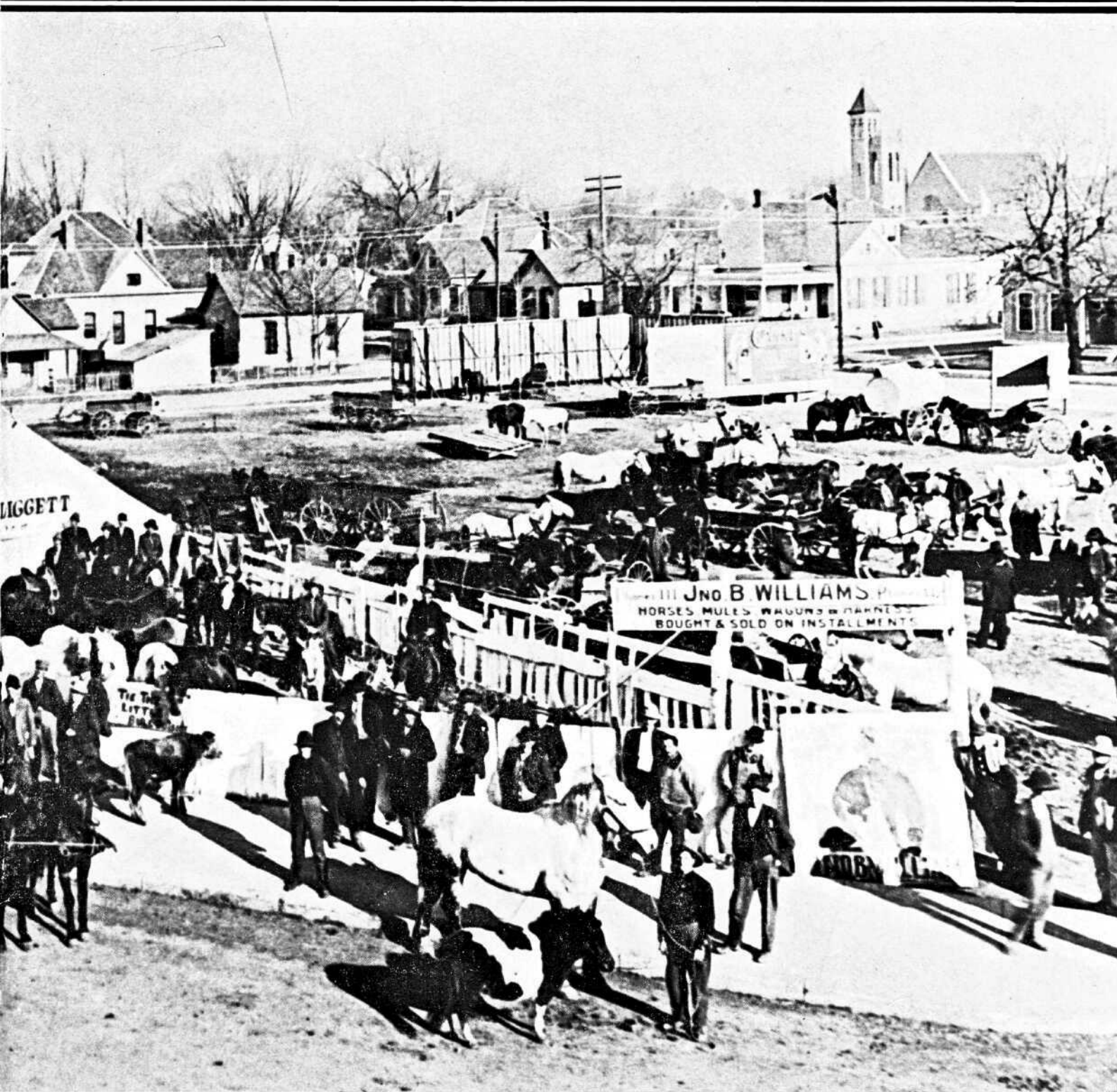


The JOURNAL

VOLUME 2 , NUMBER 1 , APRIL 1978





The JOURNAL

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FRONT COVER:

Picture courtesy of N. J. Kelly
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See page 31 for Cover Story

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ORAL HISTORY

by Missy Cole Carroll



Louis Lorenz and Ruth Ann Hansberger on their wedding day in 1910.

On February 12, 1978, an interview was made with Louis Lorenz, 97 years old, who resides at 2895 Ionia. Mr Lorenz, the son of Joe and Emma Lorenz, was born March 31, 1881, in Nebes, Austria, which later became a part of Czechoslovakia.

At the age of nine, he came to America alone to join his parents who were already here. Later he lived with an aunt and uncle in Burlington, Iowa, when his parents returned to Austria. His uncle was a cobbler. Louis also had an older sister, Mary, who remained in Austria.

While living in Burlington, Louis Lorenz worked for the Burg Wagon Factory, and while employed there he helped to build the first automobile in Burlington, which took over two years to build.

Mr. Lorenz came to Fort Smith in 1904 and was employed at the Fort Smith Wagon Company' as a blacksmith.

He lived at Mrs. John Hansberger's boarding house at 1122 So. 10th, where he met the Hansbergers daughter, Ruth Ann. They were married in 1910 and have three children: Margaret Lorenz Pahl, Florian Lorenz, and Louis Lorenz.

Ruth Ann's parents were John Hansberger and Margaret Unold, who were married in St. Louis, Missouri. Margaret was born in Switzerland and was brought to America by her mother, along with two sisters and two brothers. One of the brothers, John Unold, changed the spelling of his name from Unold to Arnold.

John Hansberger's mother was Cordelia Eunice Thurston, born in Missouri circa 1827, died in Fort Smith, Ark., February 28, 1924



The Lorenz today — Louis, 97 and Ruth, 87. Photo by Art B. Martin, M.D.

at the age of 96 years, 9 months, and is buried in Oak Cemetery. She married first, a Mr. Hansberger, given name unknown, and second, David H. Cheney.

Mr. Cheney's obituary from the Fort Smith *Elevator* says he was born October 22, 1839 in Hartford, Connecticut, and before the Civil War came to Sebastian County. Just before the war, he was married to Mrs. Cordelia Hansberger. While the war was in progress his family moved to Illinois, while he remained in Little Rock, and was employed in a government saddler shop, he being a saddler by trade.

After the war, he lived principally in Missouri, ten years of the time in St. Louis. About six years before his death he came back to Fort Smith and established "one of the most popular markets ever run here, and in which he was financially successful." He became interested in mining and other pursuits, and turned the market over to his son Dave and step-son John Hansbarger.

He was a member of the Fort Smith Mining and Smelting Co., and for some time had been at Pioneer, Missouri, superintending some valuable mines owned by his company. He died in Pioneer March 19, 1892. His wife and son Dave were summoned by telegraph and were with him when he died.

The following excerpts are from the taped interview:

"C: Did you go to work for the Wagon Factory when you first moved here?"

"L: Yes. I was making wagon tires. Some days I would make

one hundred wagon tires. That's a lot of wagon tires. The average wagon tire was an inch and a half wide and about a half inch thick. I couldn't do that every day, I wasn't man enough." (This last remark was followed by a chuckle and a twinkle in his eye.)

"C: Did they teach you how to do the welding when you went to work for them, or is this something you already knew how to do?"

"L: No. I came from a wagon company in Iowa. I tried to work at every job they gave me. As time went on I just picked it up. When you're around something all the time, you eventually learn how."

"C: Were you the only one that did welding on these tires, or were there several other men that worked with the welding?"

"L: I did it all. There was lots of welding on the wagons, but I did the tires."

"C: When did you quit the wagon factory?"

"L: I didn't quit it. It quit me. When automobiles came in, they couldn't sell their wagons, so they shut down."

"C: What did you do when the wagon factory ceased operations?"

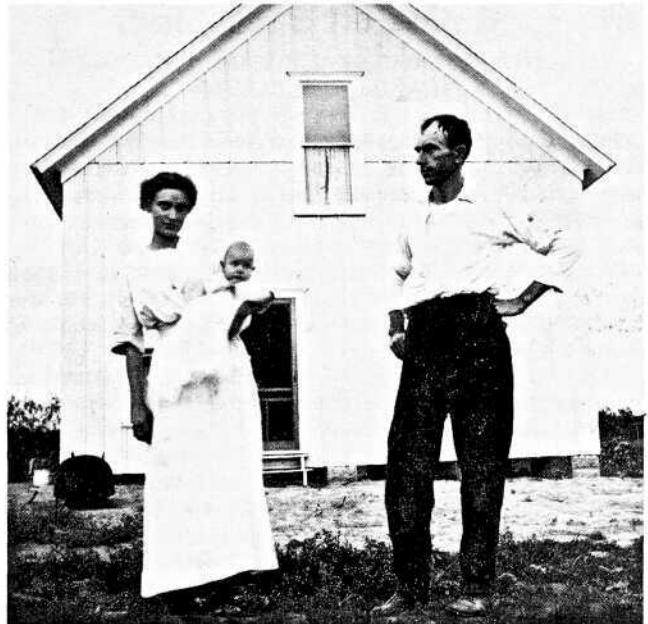
"L: People still had wagons, and wagons needed to be repaired, so I opened my own shop on Towson Avenue to repair wagons. Later we made truck bodies. The business is still there in the same building."

After some time of working as a tire welder, Mr. Lorenz was made foreman of the blacksmith shop with some fifty men under his supervision. He continued in this capacity until the Fort Smith Wagon Factory was closed. It was a branch of the John Deere Wagon Company whose headquarters was in Moline, Illinois.

He opened his own business January 1, 1924 at 509 Towson where he built wagons and did wagon repair. This business gradually turned into truck body repairing and the building of custom truck bodies.

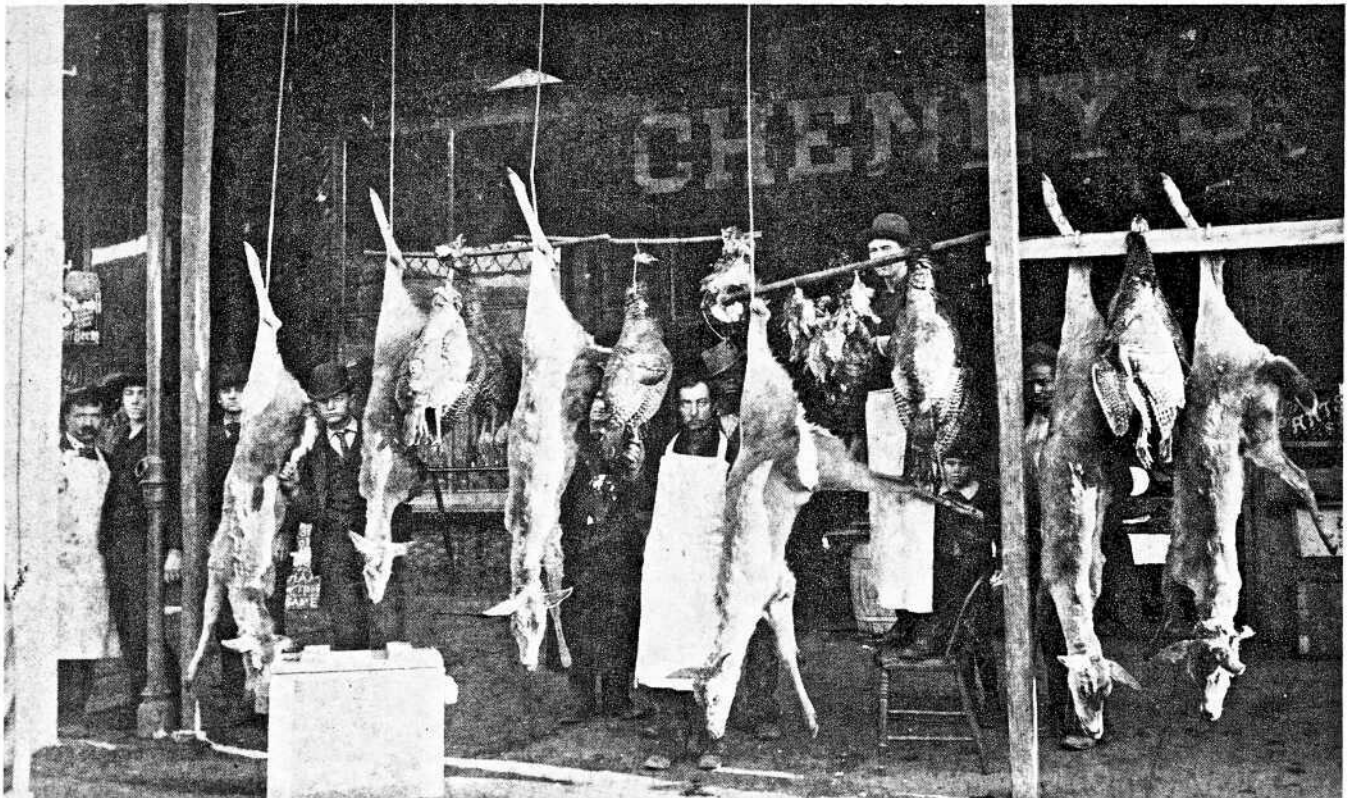
Mr. Lorenz's son, Louis went into the business with his father and still operates the business at the same location.

Other information from this interview included in the story on Texas Road, this issue, and Wagon Factory story next issue.



Louis and Ruth Lorenz in 1912, with their daughter Margaret, standing in front of their home at 3731 Towson, present site of the Litton Volkswagon Agency.

Look for the Fort Smith Wagon Factory story in the next issue of the JOURNAL.



Cheney wholesale meat market on Garrison Avenue circa 1890. Note wild deer and turkeys.

Belle Fort Smith, Inc.

CONTRIBUTES TO ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

By Missy Cole Carroll

Through the generosity of Belle Fort Smith Tour, Inc., and their \$1,000 gift presented on January 17, 1978, the oral history program of the Fort Smith Historical Society has new recording equipment. A thousand thanks to this fine group for their generous gift.

Earmarked for equipment, the money was used to purchase a compact tape recorder, transcribing unit, and an eight drawer cabinet for storage of cassette tapes, typescripts, and recording equipment.

Complete with microphone, earphone, and digital indicator for indexing tapes, the recorder will be used for interviews and for listening to tapes at the library. With the use of a patch cord, it can also be used to duplicate tapes.

The transcribing unit, which includes earphone, foot control, and speed control, has greatly added to the speed and ease of preparing transcripts of interviews — a boon to the two overworked persons now involved with oral history interviews, Missy Carroll and Betty Moulton.

Having acquired this much needed equipment, the next great need of the oral history program is workers—both interviewers and typists to transcribe the tapes.

The list of people who need to be interviewed is long — and getting longer every day!! There are tapes already made that need transcribing!!

If you are interested in donating your time to do interviews or typing, please dial 782-0673 after 5:00 p.m. If unable to reach this number, leave your name and where you can be reached with the Fort Smith Public Library, 783-0229.

1978 Belle Fort Smith Tour

ATTENTION!!

Dates of the annual BELLE FORT SMITH TOUR are April 29 and 30 — TOUR HOURS WILL BE FROM 2:00 to 5:00 o'clock each afternoon.

This tour will be of an area which is now under consideration as a Historical District, and will cover Grand Avenue to Rogers Avenue between North 13th and No. 18th.

Tickets for the tour, priced at \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children, may be purchased before the tour dates at the Chamber of Commerce office on Garrison Avenue, and the Rogers Tilles Home at 400 North 8th Street. Tickets will also be sold during the tour at the St. Anne's Convent.



Interior of the Lorenz & Vaughn blacksmith shop at 509 Towson circa 1924. Left to right, Mr. Lorenz and his partner, Mr. Vaughn.

All pictures, except current picture of Mr. and Mrs. Lorenz, courtesy of Lorenz family.

TEXAS ROAD

By: Amelia Martin

Texas Road — the road to Texas from Fort Smith, had its beginning in 1827 when Captain Bonneville surveyed a road to Fort Towson in Indian Territory. A concrete marker commemorating the event stands at the Southeast corner of "Texas Corner."

Originally a military road, it begins at what we now know as Texas Corner, the intersection of Garrison and Towson Avenues in downtown Fort Smith, and led south and west through Indian



Historical Marker — Southeast Corner "Texas Corner", Intersection of Towson and Garrison Avenues, Fort Smith.

Photo by: Gene E. McCluney Photography Co., Made Feb. 1978

Territory to Texas. First called the Fort Towson Trail, it became better known as Texas Road because of its destination. On current maps the major portion of the road is called Towson Avenue, Highway 71, Highway 45 and Highway 271 — and is still the busy road it has always been — but today's road follows a little different route as it nears the state line.

The original road led through Eureka (now called Cavanaugh), and the small portion of Texas Road which ran through that section, though still called Texas Road, is no longer a part of the highway. A city directory published in 1887 referred to the street as Towson Avenue — but beyond Dodson Avenue, the extension of Towson was known as Texas Road.

Captain Bonneville made the survey just two years after Captain John Rogers clinched one of the earliest and biggest real estate deals of the time, when he bought several hundred acres of land from the government.

Except for 300 acres which he sold back to the government that became a military reservation and the National Cemetery, the rest was laid out in a townsite which became Fort Smith.

Yes, Texas Corner was the beginning of the long trail which led to Fort Towson and the much longer trail to Fort Sam Houston in Texas.

Beyond what is now Dodson Avenue (the southern boundary of Fort Smith until 1890) the road was a mere path, a winding trail through a wilderness traveled by all kinds of people for all kinds of reasons.

As we gaze back into the past, can you envision the people passing this way? Can you see the soldiers about their business of protecting this western frontier? The trappers with furs piled high on a mule or sled? Ranch owners and cow hands herding fat cattle from Indian Territory? Families with their possessions in covered wagons searching for a new home? Peddlers with their wares displayed in their horsedrawn store on wheels? Circuit-riding preachers caring for the spiritual needs of these frontier people? And the frontier riff-raff whose crimes had forced them to flee from their homes to the refuge of the Indian Nations?

Along this same dusty trail came the stagecoaches to Fort Smith to connect with another stage line to Tipton, Missouri.¹

With the coming of the Civil War, Texas Road took on a new importance for families fleeing to Texas for safety. It was their hope for survival. Picture these wives and children, with the few possessions they could carry in a covered wagon, leaving their homes, not knowing if they would ever see them again. Feel their sorrow and anxiety as they faced the unknown future without their husbands and fathers who stayed behind to defend their homes — and their determination as once again they traveled Texas Road, but this time to home to pick up the pieces and rebuild.

But let us leave our imaginary view of Texas Road for a look at it through the eyes of Louis Lorenz who operated a blacksmith shop and truck body shop at 509-511 Towson.

Mr. Lorenz recalls that when he came to Fort Smith from Burlington, Iowa in 1904, a part of Towson between Garrison and Dodson Avenues was a gravel road, turning into a muddy rut as it approached Indian Territory. There were about a dozen houses on all of Towson Avenue.

During these earlier days the residents along Texas Road were served almost daily by the "Apple Knockers" who sold fruits, vegetables, and even meats from their covered (or uncovered) wagons. If these vendors happened along about lunch time, it was not uncommon for some of the ladies along the road to give them their lunch.

Lorenz came to Fort Smith to work for the Fort Smith Wagon Company. He roomed on H Street and walked to his job at the wagon works on Wheeler Avenue — avoiding walking on Towson Avenue because "it was a rough street where gangs congregated and where most anything could happen to the unwary person."

Mr. Lorenz further recalled that on Towson Avenue and A street there was a hotel painted red, which was known as the Red Onion.

The site of the Ross Motor Company (now the Champ Hinton Pontiac Agency) was occupied by the Hare's Wagon Yard which covered about a block.

Across the street was the Traveler's Home, a combined saloon and hotel at 501 Towson. An early city directory shows that a Mrs. Mary A. Hare operated both the wagon yard and the hotel, but Lorenz recalled that Tom Ferguson operated the wagon yard when he came here, and that Ferguson was also the pound master.

When cattle roamed from the farmlands into the city, Ferguson would impound the animals in the wagon yard. Owners of the cattle were charged a fee when they called to recover the animals. Adjacent to the Traveler's Home hotel was a large fenced area where travelers arriving in the city parked their wagons. This might be called a forerunner of the modern tourist court, for in this area the travelers who could not find accommodations in the hotel, slept in their wagons and ate their meals on tables provided in the enclosure by the management.

At the corner of Garrison Avenue and Towson, Williams and Sons operated a Pony Express Company, an intown baggage and delivery service.

¹In the fall of 1858 the arrival of the first Butterfield stagecoach in Fort Smith was the occasion for a big celebration.

About 1910 the T. C. Grocery (Thompson and Clawson) was located in the 700 block, and at the corner of Dodson, there was a grocery store and a few houses.

There was a small Episcopal Church in about the 1200 block on the east side of Towson.

At 1401 Towson was a large cotton gin. Cotton was hauled in by the farmers in wagons with very high sideboards. Across from the cotton gin to the west was a rock quarry.

At Spring Street (South 0), on the southeast corner was a large open spring of sulphur water. People came from miles around to get this water for drinking purposes. As the years went by, the spring became contaminated and was done away with.

A Presbyterian Church was located on the west side of Towson a few blocks south of Spring Street. It was later moved to Jenny Lind Road.

Just east of the present Old Spiro Highway was a large rock quarry.

Where Mill Creek crosses Towson Avenue now was John Biltl's grocery and grist mill — a typical country store. Today Louisville Street runs west from this point.

Maness Grocery was located on the northwest corner of Towson (Texas Road) and Old Mill Creek Road (Phoenix Avenue). It was operated by Bill Maness, and later by his sons, Paul and Kermit.

The then "new" Mill Creek School was located just north of the Maness Grocery, on the site of the present day Phoenix Village Baptist Church. The "old" Mill Creek School was on Mill Creek Road east of Texas Road.

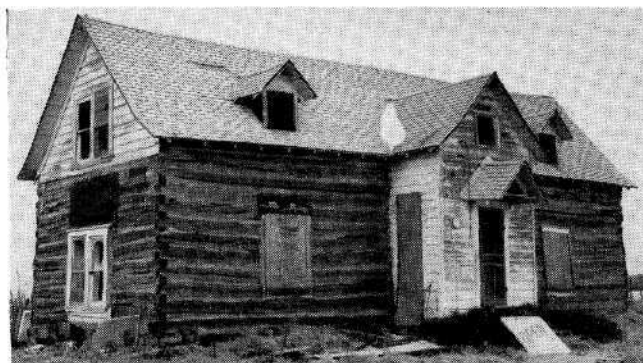
Before the days of the street car line out Towson, a creek ran across the road at about "F" Street. It ran along the side of the Catholic Cemetery from the east, crossed Towson and ran on west, emptying into Mill Creek and the Poteau River. This creek was bridged on Towson with a wooden bridge for the horse-drawn wagons and buggies.

There were horse-drawn street cars on Garrison Avenue, but by the time this service was extended out Towson Avenue, the cars were electric. The "car line" at first ran only to "H" Street on Towson where it turned and went to 21st Street, then turned south until it reached the old "Fair Grounds" — South Dallas and Jenny Lind, the present day site of Ramsey Junior High School.

Later, the line was extended out Texas Road to what is now Fresno (where the railroad crosses Towson), turning east there to Jenny Lind and terminating in South Fort Smith.

A favorite prank was to put grease on the car tracks which were on an incline just east of Towson. This would cause the wheels of the street car to slip and spin so the car would not move forward. In the mid-twenties this curve in the car line became known about town as "Society Curve" — the location of a dance pavilion.

After World War I, when the population of Fort Smith grew to 28,870 in 1920, Towson Avenue suffered growing pains. It is more than four miles long, and today, business establishments line both sides of the street which is still the road to Texas and to all points south and west.



7801 Towson "Highway 271 South"

Photo by Gene E. McCluney Photography Co., made Feb. 1978.

Amidst the growth through the years, stands one log house at 7801 Towson, a lone survivor of the past. Mystery shrouds the history of this house. It is said to have been built by a Mr. Browne who later owned a Browne Wholesale Grocery in Fort Smith. Dear reader, please help your editors put the story of this house together².

While Texas Road was the road out for some, and the road in for others, it was the end of the road for still others.

Just south of Cavanaugh on Texas Road, about a quarter of a mile from where it turns west and runs into Stateline road, stands a lone tombstone on the east side of the road in a meadow of the Cavanaugh Dairy Farm owned by Mr. and Mrs. George W. Combs.



Mr. & Mrs. George W. Combs and the gravestone of Susanna Murris.

Photo by Dr. Art B. Martin

The carved epitaph is simple: "Susanna Murris was born June 3, 1832. Married to H. Mickle, October 14, 1847. Departed this life on August 16, 1851."

Near the top of the headstone is a chiseled heart.

Though tilted erratically where the earth has given away beneath it, the stone is not scarred or damaged, and remains as a tribute to a young pioneer wife.

George Combs says that according to stories told by old timers, H. Mickle hauled the huge flat stone from Georgia Mountain near Bonanza, cut and chiseled it himself, and erected it in memory of his loved one.

Research done by Chris Allen reveals that the 1850 census lists Harmon MICKLE, age 33, with property valued at \$2,500 in Marion Township, Crawford³ County, Arkansas, as being born in Virginia. Susanna, his wife, was age 17 and was born in Arkansas. This would have been his second wife, as his children were: MARY M., age 15; WILLIAM, age 13; HARMON, age 9 all born in Tennessee; ELIZABETH, age 8 and AMILDA, age 7, both born in Arkansas. Also listed in the census as a resident of the Mickle home was John REESE, a laborer born in Canada.

Along Texas Road, in sight of the gravestone, are two of the three houses built by the sons of H. Mickle more than a century ago. One of these has been moved from its original location, but the other is the beautiful home which George Combs and his family remodeled and live in today.

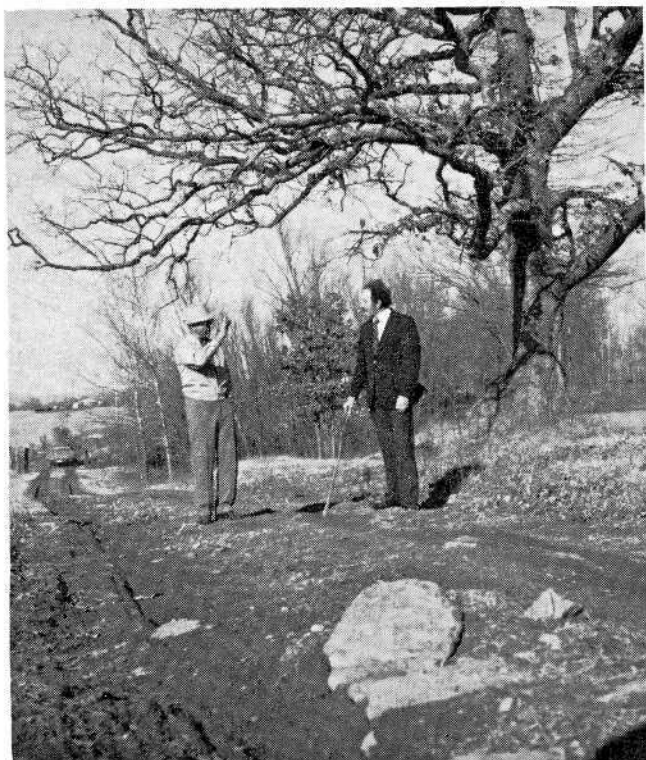
Moving south to the spot where old Texas Road entered the untamed Choctaw Nation, we find the Leard Cemetery, and a little further south, the original route of Texas Road ends at a ridge on the Oklahoma line in a pasture.

²Late in March, to preserve this house, Mr. George Combs is moving it to the Cavanaugh Dairy.

³Sebastian County was carved from Crawford County in 1851.

LEARD CEMETERY

CHARLES J. HOUGH, May 2, 1882 - October 29, 1967
 CORA SHPHRONIA HOUGH, died 22 July 1977, aged 91.
 JAMES HENRY ANDERSON, 1893 - 1969.
 HARRIETT ANDERSON, 1872 - 1964.
 RUBY M. STEVENSON, June 1910 - September 1911.
 MABLE LEE FOSTER, November 21, 1905 - Feb. 16, 1908.
 CHARLEY A. HOLLAND, October 18, 1903 - June 7, 1915.
 THELMA MERE PERSON, Aug. 17, 1908 - Sept. 7, 1910.
 ALOIS JENNETT, Dau of J. & M.L. PERSON, May 4, 1912 - August 19, 1915.
 BILLY JO MOSLEY, son of Jack and Pauline Mosley, July 27, 1929 - March 12, 1930.
 NAUSIE JACK MOSLEY, died Fed. 3, 1976, aged 68.
 REV. JACOB PERSON, 1884 - 1961.
 MINNIE PERSON SPANN, 1884 - 1962.
 JACOB L. PERSON, JR., 1916 - 1970.
 JAMES GREGORY BULLOCK, June 8, 1957 - July 2, 1958.
 JON JEFFREY BULLOCK, June 6, 1959 - Feb. 2, 1961.
 PHILLIP RODNEY BULLOCK, January 7, 1964 - Sept. 23, 1964.
 JUNIOR DOWNING, April 2, 1926 - September 21, 1930.
 OLENA DOWNING, died 1930.
 EULIS DOWNING, January 5, 1941 - July 24, 1941.
 ANVIL CARSON, died November 1, 1917, aged 29 years.
 BABY CARSON
 HERBURT CARSON, died January 3, 1917, age one week.
 BABY JOHNSON, died, July 15, 1913, age two days.
 INFANT PERSON
 ANNIE BELLE DOWNING, Sept. 6, 1898 - June 3, 1949.
 JOHN DOWNING, August 4, 1898 - December 30, 1959.
 CLEDUS C. ROGERS, March - April 5, 1938.
 ETTEE MAY RODGERS, 1875 - 1966.
 GEORGE W. ROGERS, SEPTEMBER 1, 1867 - April 29, 1938.
 MAUD JACKSON, 1883 - 1967.
 WILLIAM JACKKSON, 1884 - 1922.
 GEORGE HENDERSON, 1879 - 1967.
 EMMALINE , 1886 - 1922
 ROY E. HENDERSON, January 9, 1943.
 RAY, B. MCALISTER, 1917 - 1941.
 REBECA STOKES, November 18, 1860 - June 11, 1927.
 LULA WALKER, dau of PAUL and ARVILLA GLOVER, September 18, 1897 - December 27, 1915.
 MRS. MALISA S. HICKS, September 2, 1857 - March 19, 1912
 INFANT SON & DAU. OF F.A. and OLA KARL. May 1, 1909 - June 18 & 29, 1909.
 JANE VAN, died 1920.
 MATTIE JACKSON, died 1911.
 RUBEN VAN, died 1921.
 SUSAN WOODS, 1828 - 1910.
 NATHAN WOODS, 1832 - 1923.
 VERNON CLAYTON WALKER, October 26, 1922 - August 7, 1925.
 MARY E. EASTEP, June 13, 1897 - March 1, 1976.
 BENJAMIN M. EASTEP, January 27, 1893 - June 29, 1965.
 KATIE LEE PARKER, 1872 - 1959.
 EUGENE E. PARKER, 1953 - 1926.
 AILCY MASON, 1864 - 1941.
 HENRY MASON, 1863 - 1951.
 FANNIE MASON OTWELL, March 23, 1906 - April 22, 1930.
 NEAL DEFFEBACH, Infant 1924,
 FRANKIE DEFFEBACH, August 18, 1912 - December 12, 1918.
 CHARLES DEFFEBACH, March 31, 1868 - Sept. 9, 1931.
 OLLIE A. DEFFEBACH, March 17, 1883 - December 28, 1975.
 WILLIAM A. PIRKINS, July 19, 1895 - January 24, 1914.
 BESSIE, DAU. OF J.M. & SUSSIE PERKINS May 22, 1891 - October 15, 1909.
 CHARLES A. BOWERS, died January 4, 1909, age 30 years.



Sam Allen and George W. Combs stand on the original route of Texas Road, just below the crest of the ridge, where it ends today at the Oklahoma line

Photos by Dr. Art B. Martin

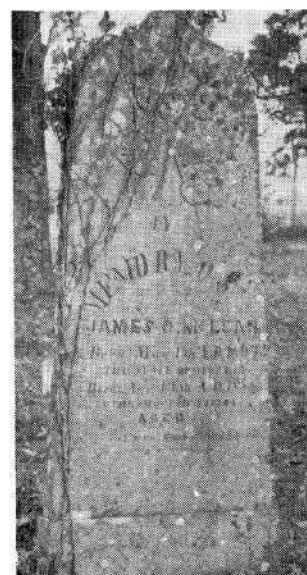
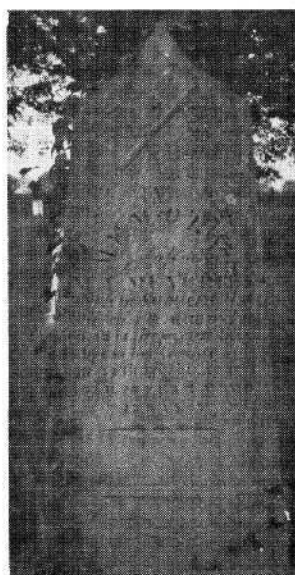
The cemetery contains many unusual markers over a century old — unusual not only because of their carving, but also because they are carved from native stone.

The following inventory of headstones in Leard Cemetery was done by Mr. and Mrs. Sam Allen. Chris and Sam have very carefully copied the lettering on each stone, and the records shown here are exactly as they appear on the grave markers — you will note the same family name spelled in various ways on different stones in the same family plot.



RAYMOND, Son of C.A. & MYRTLE BOWERS, Nov. 24, 1906 - January 6, 1907.
 ADA A. GOODWIN, 1879 - 1927.
 LIZZIE HOLT - age 25.
 VESTA THOMAS, July 4, 1891 - August 29, 1962.
 C.G. THOMAS, November 1, 1875, - January 22, 1956.
 M.J. THOMAS, 1840 - 1914.
 JOSEPH, Son of C.G., VESTA THOMAS, February 21, 1913 - June 15, 1914.
 EARL, Son of C.G. & M.V. THOMAS, Oct. 24, 1914 - July 17, 1916.
 ULYSSES HARLAN, Son of C.G. & V.B. THOMAS, Sept. 23, 1916 - November 24, 1919.
 SALINA ELLEN HENDRIX, May 27, 1865 - January 18, 1941.
 ALBERT HENDRIX, October 8, 1855 - December 1, 1936.
 JOHN HOLLAND, died April 27, 1934.
 JOHN T. HENRY, 1884 - 1948.
 LONIA M. HENRY, 1899 -
 PAUL W. HOLMES, October 10, 1911 - August 27, 1921.
 MARY HOLMES, Wife of G.P. HOLMES, Feb. 2, 1878 - March 6, 1931.
 ZORA BELLE BROTHERS, Aug. 9, 1875 - January 4, 1949.
 A.M. BROTHERS, September 9, 1872 - December 30, 1929.
 JOHN A. CAPERTON, January 6, 1891 - July 28, 1922.
 HELLEN E. CAPERTON, June 11, 1919 - January 18, 1922.
 (Adopted Daughter)
 ELSIE M. FINNEY, 1890 - 1931.
 STEPHEN C. HALE, 1858 - 1938.
 ELIZA ANN HALE, 1859 - 1943.
 COLUMBUS DRAIN, Died March 13, 1926, age 40 years.
 JAMES T. ROACH, 1844 - 1931.
 ARDENA ROACH, 1860 - 1929.
 INFANT DAU. of A.B. & M.M. TEDDER, died April 5, 1918.
 AUSTIN JACKSON, Jr., Dec. 5, 1917 - July 15, 1933.
 Dau. of W. C. & APPIE SHEPHERD, b & d. March 10, 1905.
 FREDDIE E. Son of Mr. & Mrs. ADRIAN MOORE, May 7, 1908 - October 22, 1909.
 PEGGY ANN OUSLEY, 1943 - 1954.
 HEARLE FOY CHERRY, died July 28, 1924, age 2 yrs., 9 mos.
 B.F. FLEMING, September 12, 1885 - February 22, 1923.
 ANNIE, Dau. of F.F. & EFFIE FLEMING, October 15, 1910 - August 9, 1918.
 WALTER A. THOMAS, August 6, 1899 - December 17, 1952.
 ROBERT LEE JOHNSON, November 6, 1871 - July 7, 1946.
 NELLIE B. JOHNSON, 1879 - 1950.
 JOSEPH H. ALBERTSON, PFC, US Marine Corps WWII August 23, 1914 - November 12, 1976.
 JOSEPH H. ALBERTSON, November 1, 1873 - November 5, 1918.
 Woodman of the World.
 MALINDA CAROLINE, August 10, 1879 - Feb. 24, 1960.
 JOHN DURBIN, Died December 15, 1939, age 77.
 JAMES C. GREEN, Died October 16, 1936, 6 mos. 20 days.
 MARY DURBIN, died March 11, 1929, aged 56 years.
 FAY GREEN, died July 10, 1934, age 59.
 JESSIE LEA ALDRIDGE, died December 21, 1923, one day.
 A.V., age 69
 WILLACE HENDERSON, March 4, 1895 - January 18, 1912.
 VAUGHN, 1852 - 1909.
 MAUDIE E. WILSON, 1897 - 1933.
 B.K. BUCKNER, February 13, 1856 - July 12, 1931.
 RALPH S. PRYOR, 1895 - 1912.
 THELBERT, Son of J.M. & M. PRYOR, died Oct. 8, 1906, Aged 6 mos.
 MARY E. THURSTON, January 5, 1845 - April 11, 1918 - Sister.
 Wm. D. SHEPHERD, Sept. 23, 1840 - May 30, 1913, Brother.
 DAVID H. SHEPHERD, 1889 - 1970.
 WILLIAM BOYD, Ark. Pvt. 33 U.S. Vol. Inf. May 7, 1936.
 JOHN S. SMITH, October 14, 1867 - May 31, 1924.
 MOLLIE SMITH, December 4, 1869 - August 17, 1917.

COLUMBUS SMITH, died January 11, 1913, age 10 years.
 ROBERT SMITH, died March 5, 1913, age 20 years.
 BABY COTTON.
 JOHN DELBERT BRADSHAW, December 21, 1937 - Infant.
 ARNOLD A. BRADSHAW, December 10, 1880 - April 28, 1964.
 PRISCILLA BRADSHAW, June 30, 1850 - December 2, 1931.
 JOHN S. BRADSHAW, May 6, 1844 - 1922, Feb. 6.
 WILLIAM BRADSHAW, August 9, 1877 - June 10, 1952.
 LITTLE EVERETT, Son of R. & S.E. BECKHAM, April 23, 1908.
 ORVAL M. DALTON, September 10, 1900 - October 2, 1971.
 BEULAH MAY BARBER, September 30, 1929 - January 24, 1936.
 IRA CLEMENT, Born in Kentucky, Died August 15, 1910, age 52 years.
 CHARLEY H., Hus. of M.E. JOHNSON, Feb. 23, 1864 - April 6, 1906.
 RUTH, Wife of L.P. MYERS, August 15, 1908 - June 7 1930.
 BEAULAH A. GABBERT, 1878 - 1963.
 DOCK K. GABBERT, 1876 - 1920 (A Mason).
 HELEN BOW, January 3, 1925 - July 20, 1927.
 DOCK K. GABBERT, 1876 - 1920.
 EATHEL WARREN, died December 22, 1905, age 4 years.
 WINNEFORD RICHARDS, died Feb. 12, 1911, age 78 years.
 MARTHA WARREN, September 13, 1866 - October 19, 1954.
 MARTHA E., Wife of J.H. SCRUGGS, April 18, 1828 - June 18, 1906.
 CORA ANN BROWN, November 26, 1882 - June 14, 1923.
 W.A. SMITH, April 1, 1881 died May .
 JOHN R. SMITH, 1851 - 1919.
 MARY R. SMITH, 1856 - 1914.
 RUBY MAY GEREN, December 14, 1898 - May 24, 1913.
 EDWARD CECIL GEREN, January 3, 1913 - May 24, 1913.
 OSCAR THOMAS GEREN, April 22, 1901 - December 6, 1916.
 SAMUEL EARNEST GILLILAN, June 11, 1876 - February 25, 1951.
 ANNIE R. GILLILAN, 1882 - 1928.
 FLOYD BEATY, November 12, 1914 - November 2, 1919.
 ERNEST BEATY, August 26, 1904 - September 26, 1904.
 BABY EVANS, September 25, 1904 - January 19, 1905.
 BUFORD ELTON CABBERT, February 28, 1907 - June - June 14, 1907.
 MYRTLE G., Dau of E.S. & A.R. GREGORY, died Jan. 22, 1905 age 3.



Gravemarkers for James O. McLean and M.L. Muncrief both cut from native stone.

ABRAHAM GREGORY, died January 4, 1905, age 84 years.

NORMA GRIFFITH, 1903 - 1904.

B. BUNCH, April 5, 1899 - April 16, 1923.

OSCAR SEARCY, 1879 - 1914.

THOS. A. SEARCY, 1851 - 1920.

MERRY ELLEN ROGERS, b June 7, 1933 - Dec. 1, 1935.

ROSE P. BEATY, June 8, 1851 - May 22, 1934.

WILLIAM M. BEATY, June 10, 1848 - Feb. 6, 1926.

LULA D. VANDERBURG, 1861 - 1947.

C.M. VANDERBURG, 1855 - 1927.

LUBY B. STANFIELD, December 31, 1871 - Sept. 29, 1939.

LILLIAN LOCKE SMITH, 1879 - 1946.

JOHN D. LOCKE, 1873 - 1920.

HENRY D. LOCKE, 1837 - 1892.

O.E. - E.A. EVANS Sept. 23, 18 -- - Sept. 12, 1884.

She is at Rest.

PASCAL, Son of J.A. & P.A. BRICKEY, June 30, 1860 - November 25, 1879.

JOHN T., Son of J.A. & P.A. BRICKEY, Feb. 27, 1866 - July 15, 1879.

SALLEE, Dau of G. - EMILY A. REDWINE, died Jan. 23, 1869 - age 2 years.

LINGURN LYNCH, Son of L.M. & DELMARE DWINE, 1895 - 1897.

NANNIE J., Wife of F. TAYLOR, died 34 years 9 mos.

LEE LITTLE, October 11, 1883 - July 15, 1888.

INFANT REDDICK, June 12, 1940 - July 15, 1888.

T.L. GARRETT, died January 9, 1907, aged 65 years.

EDGAR C. GARRETT, February 28, 1868 - January 6, 1892.

M.L. MUNCRIEF, b Sumter Co. Ala., 5 day of February A.D. 1841.

Departed this life in Choctaw NATION ON 24 OF November A.D. 1861, age 20 yrs., 9 mos., 19 days.

AMANDA JOHNSON, died August 16, 1906, age 55.

JACK ELLES, died January 27, 1907, age 56 years.

MARIA GORDON, died January 1, 1868, 35 years.

C.F. KEARNS, b Randolph Co. N.C., June 25, 1845 - Died December 7, 1887 (Iron Fence Enclosure)

SARAH J., Wife of J.L. MARTIN, Jan. 17, 1839 - May 2, 1902.

MABIN B. PRICE b June 15, 1837 - August 1, 1900.

EARL, Son of M.B. & L.M. PRICE, Sept. 5, 1884 - Jan. 6, 1893.

GEORGE H. BROWN, January 22, 1832 - December 16, 1893.

AMANDA ROSS GEREN, His wife, June 4, 1836 - Nov. 30, 1897.

THOS. M. GEREN, August 23, 1826 - December 18, 1917.

IN MEMORY OF SUSAN ENZA BROWN, Jan. 23, 1830 - Jan. 17, 1865.

M.G. LOWRY, died May 28, 1891.

NANNIE C.B. Wife of J.R. LEARD, died November 10, 1897, Aged 72 years, 10 mos.

JANE LEARD, december 24, 1796 - September 26, 1882.

J.T. RYAN, September 3, 1847 - July 15, 1878.

JOE W. RYAN, October 28, 1849 - October 1873.

CAROLINE E. BROWN, 1844 - 1900.

JAMES L. BROWN, 1844-1900.

IDONICA, Dau of J.T. & C. LEARD, died Dec. 20, 1880, 4 yrs.

PRISCILLA T., Wife of J.R. LEARD, Jan. 17, 1822 - Feb. 21, 1883.

JOHN R. LEARD, Apr. 10, 1822 - Mar. 10, 1902 (A Mason).

MINNIE, Dau of J.T. & C. LEARD, Oct. 15, 1878 - Dec. 1894.

OLA LEARD, Dau. of R.S. & M. LEARD, July 4, 1889 - July 3, 1890.

JOHN R. PECK, August 10, 1874 - December 14, 1895.

R.S. MCCARTY, Sept. 9, 1893, age 73 years. (A Mason).

NANNIE, wife of R.L. MCCARTY, Jan. 29, 1877 - Jan. 17, 1898.

LEE ROY, Son of R. L. & N. MCCARTY, Nov. 22, 1897 - Aug. 22, 1898

NATHANIEL M. VAN CLEAVE, Feb. 22, 1843 - Feb. 18, 1897.

ELLIS MCCARTY, Son of J.L. & LAURA, December 22, 1878 - Aug. 20, 1880

ELIZABETH, Wife of E.A.J. COBLE, Nov. 4, 1850 - Jan. 29, 1883.

JAMES C. MCLEAN, May 4, 1801 in the State of Georgia, died Nov. 12, 1855 in the Choctaw Nation, aged 51 years, 6 mos. 8 days.

SUSAN MONKS, born in Sumter Co. Alabama, February 10, 1819, died on 31 August in the Choctaw Nation, age 41 years, 6 mos and 21 days.

ALMIRA, Wife of ISAAC HERLINGER, Mar. 5, 1831 - Sept. 12, 1883.

INFANT Son of C.W. & M.T. WILLIAMS, b & D, Apr. 10, 1889.

SARAH R. Dau of W. I. & M.J. HUGHES, Sept. 11, 1870 - July 5, 1877.

JACOB, Son of W.I. & M.J. HUGHES, Sept. 11, 1870 - July 5, 1877.

DAVID, Son of W.I. & M.J. HUGHES, June 9, 1874 - Nov. 17, 1874.

Inf. of W.O. & R.B. HARTSHORNE, died May 27, 1888

EDNA F.W. HARTSHORNE

WILLIE, Son of R.T.M. & JULIA H. HARTSHORNE, Sept. 22 and died October A.D. 1884.

R.D. HARTSHORNE

FLORENCE, Dau of P.A. & A.B. HOLMES, Dec. 13, 1874 - Dec. 16, 1886.

SARAH E. Wife of W. B. MORGAN, December 1, 1836 - Died August 11, 1884, aged 47 yrs., 8 mos. and 10 days.

PHEBE A., Dau of B. & M. REEDER, departed this life October, 19, 1886, born December 31, 1870, age 15.

ELIZABETH, Wife of J. PAYNE, died Dec. 6, 1880, aged 61 yrs.

J. PAYNE, January 8, 1819 - January 8, 1873, age 54.

JESSIE & E. & M.J. STATO, Nov. 20, - - - - Sept. 6, 1891.

LOUIE WASHINGTON GEREN, January 23, 1892 - September 27, 1897.

CHARLEY BULLINGTON, June 3, 1896 - June 24, 1898.

OSTHEB G. REAVES, April 30, 1866 - April 21, 1887.

DELPHIA J. REAVES, January 25, 1822 - September 24, 1876.

OLIATTA P. REAVES, December 10, 1858 - Oct. 10, 1875.

W.J. REAVES, June 9, 1850 - January 26, 1888.

MARY HARLAN, wife of A. --- July 30, 1819, June 12, 1854.

J. JACOBS, died January 31, 1872, age 20 years.

LUCIE, Dau of S. & A.R. GREGORY, Nov. 15, 1901, aged 7 years.

ALICE, Dau of T.A. & S.M. SEARCY, June - - -

THOMAS LOUISA, WIFE OF ELD. R.L. Lee, Apr. 16, 1870 - November 28, 1898.

KATIE MARTIN, Dau of ERVIN & EMMA MARTIN, May 9, 1896 - June 21, 1896.

MARY E., Dau of J.I. & S.J. MARTIN, March 10, 1872 - March 28, 1894.

JACK ELLES, died January 27, 1907, aged 56 years.

AMANDA JOHNSON, died August 16, 1906, age 55 years.

JOSEPHINE, Dau of THOMAS LOVELESS, February 1875 - died September 1894.

JERRYLEAN, Dau of M. & T. CARTER, Nov. 26, 1903 - Apr. 4, 1905.

MINNIE, Dau of S.J. & M.H. JONES, died March, 18, 1905, age 15 mos.

BERTHA MARIE ELLIOTT, June 26, 1929 - Oct. 10, 1977. (Fentress Mortuary, Ft. Smith)

DAVE H. GOTHARD, died Nov. 3, 1958, age 76 yrs., 3 mos., 6 days.

FANNIE GOTHARD, Nov. 10, 1891 - February 1950, aged 59.

GEORGE DONALD MCALESTER, June 5, 1936 - June 19, 1936.

HOYT WAYNE MARTIN, November 30, 1941 - November 30,

1943.L.D. MARTIN, Nov. 30, 1913 - Nov. 30, 1943.

BABY JOHNSON, born & died March 31, 1947 (Edwards Funeral Home)

JANICE ANN MARTIN, died June 25, 1955, 1 day (Edwards Funeral Home, Ft. Smith, Ark.)

HENRY C. MARTIN, 1882 - 1961.

JUANITA WEATHERFORD, Feb. 7, 1928 - Nov. 3, 1954 (Fentress, Fort Smith, ARK)

ROBERT WEATHERFORD, June 30, 1904 - Oct. 8, 1950.

JOHN ADKINS

JAMES HUDSON, died Oct. 31, 1926, age 45

W.M. HILL, March 25, 1875 - February 17, 1948.

BELLE HILL, March 6, 1885 - August 2, 1952.
 A.J. HUDSON, January 5, 1857 - August 16, 1941.
 MARGARET HUDSON, died February 18, 1931, aged 71 years.
 NITA A. GOFORTH, March 5, 1897 - December 28, 1940.
 L.D. GOFORTH, 1896 - 1970
 WALTER W. GOFORTH, 1923-1972, Ark. PFC Co. A 11 Armd Inf.
 WW11 (May 27, 1923 - July 18, 1972).
 STUART BRYAN PRESSON, April 14, 1966 - April 21, 1969.
 JAMES ROBERT PRESSON, August 9, 1949 - June 12, 1950.
 ELIZABETH WILLIAMS, 1907 - 1951.
 JIMMY T. WILLIAMS, 1901 - 1968.
 REBA E. THURSTON, April 20, 1902 - March 4, 1956.
 BOBBY JAMES, son of JAMES & ELIABETH WILLIAMS, 1932-1942.
 RUTH MARIE THURSTON, died December 20, 1939, 5 yrs. (Putman FUNERAL Home, Ft. Smith, AR.)
 BUSTER IBISON, 1917 - 1936.
 BERT IBISON, 1879 - 1924.
 LORENE UNDERWOOD, September 25, 1914 - June 13, 1941.
 BARBARA ANN UNDERWOOD, April 15, 1936 - April 8, 1937.
 MATTIE FANT, May 15, 1897 - January 18, 1961.
 TONEY N. FANT, October 28, 1892 - April 28, 1944.
 ERNEST MALEDON, 1922 - 1977 (Smith Mortuary).
 BECKY POLLOCK, 1884 - 1950.
 JAMES H. GOODMAN, 1872 - 1947.
 RACHEL E. GOODMAN, 1882 - 1939.
 JOHN R. GOODMAN, 1938 - 1938.
 WILLIE E., son of W.E. & N.E. STUART, June 7, 1894 - Dec. 16, 1900.
 SARAH ELLEN, dau. of W.E. & N.E. STUART, born & died March 2, 1904.
 LEROY B. DAVIS, October 4, 1869 - February 17, 1910.
 PERCY D. CASTLEBERRY, May 18, 1899 - Oct. 8, 1899.
 JOHNNY J. son of J.P. & S.A. GLOVER, April 18, 1900 - November 22, 1901.
 JOHN J. son of J.B. & S.E. BERNARD, Feb. 25, 1895 - Apr. 25, 1902.
 PAUL J. son of J.B. & S.E. BERNARD, Nov. 26, 1898 - Apr. 14, 1902.
 MODA, dau of W.A. & E.J. PARSONS, July 29 - Sept. 30, 1885.
 FRANK JAMES, son of W.C. & ALICE BAISE, June 9, 1887 - May 19, 1889.
 DENNIS OWEN, son of M.S. & G.A. COLLINS, JR., July 29, 1895 - March 21, 1896.
 MERIT SLUSSER, August 23, 1902 - 11 months - our Darling.
 BABY SLUSSER, May - (broken)
 JAMES, son of J.T. & LUCINDA RIDGE, July 1, 1866 - June 4, 1886.
 CHARLIE E. Son of J.S. & A.W. MARTIN, Feb. 24, 1895 - June 21, 1896.
 MATTIE R. Dau of J.P. & M.S.B. WARLICK, Oct 17, 1888 - Sept. 23, 1890.
 LULA E. Dau of J.P. & M.S.B. WARLICK, Mar. 3, 1894 - Oct. 7, 1895.
 ISAAC EARL, Inf. son of J.L. & M.S.B. WARLICK, Nov. 28, 1904 - June 18, 1905.
 JAMES JONES, October 14, 1888, aged 30 years.
 FANNIE L., Wife of HENRY JONES, d Nov. 14, 1883 aged 54 yrs.
 OLIVE, Dau of OLIVER & MARY DECKER, Feb. 3, 1885 - June 1, 1887.
 RUTH ANNA WARD, Wife of L.P. ROY, Jan. 30, 1874 - Nov. 13, 1897.
 GEORGE GORMAN, died April 2, 1902, age 53 years.
 RUTH EVA HALL, Sept. 29, 18-8 (couldn't read).
 LOMAY, Dau of J.W. & ANNIE BUNCH, Jan. 27, 1897 - Feb. 7, 1898.
 ELIZABETHE, Wife of S.P. HICKS, Mar. 19, 1831 - July 30, 1873.
 BERRY NEWMAN, June 14, 1867 - September 5, 1923.
 B. WILLIAMS, son of B.M. & J. WILLIAMS, Sept. 4, 1858 - Feb. 18, 1883.
 T.B., Son of J.F. & F. COPPIC, May 5, 1881 - May 10, 1881.
 In Memory of M.L. MUNCRIEF, born Sumter City, Ala. on 5th day of February A.D. 1841, Departed this life in the CHOETAU Nation, on 24th of Nov. A.D. 1861, age 20 years, 9 mos. 19 days.
 FRANK, Son of W.D. & A. MCFADDEN, Sept. 6, 1882, - Mar. 13, 1883.
 JAMES MARTIN, August 11, 1809 - April 27, 1893.
 J.B. MARTIN, July 6, 1867 - February 12, 1904.
 WILLIAM COLE, died June 6, 1891, aged 30 years.
 MAMIE COLE, died April 19, 1901 - 17 years.
 LILA HUBANKS, died Jan. 11, 1876.
 MYRTLE MARTIN, Aug. 3 1898 - August 3, 1977.
 JOHN F. SANDS, 1878 - 1961.
 OWANA C. JOHNSON, d July 30th 1942, 5 mos. & 22 days.
 JUANITA C. JOHNSON, d Aug. 13, 1942, 6 mos, 8 days.
 JOYCE JEAN WEBBING, Sept. 22, 1942 - April 21, 1943.
 AMANDIA I. GRAHAM, October 21, 1857 - September 3, 1944.
 EUGENE WILLIAMS, December 2, 1942 - died 9 mos. 7 days.
 RUTH HOWARD, July 5, 1916 - April 16, 1929.
 HARLEY PAINTER, died November 9, 1913, age 73 yrs., 9 mo. 2 days (Edwards Funeral Home, Ft. Smith)
 MARY G. PAINTER, July 19, 1863 - July 15, 1934.
 T.A. "SAM" FANT, 1861 - 1932.
 GEORGIA ANN FANT, 1860 - 1934.
 HATTIE MAE, Dau of W.M. & LUVIA BROWN, Mar. 25, 1914 - Dec. 6, 1920.
 Inf. son of MR. & MRS. J.D. WHEELER, October 25, 1933.
 WILLIAM T. GREEN, 1901 - 1974.
 JERRY WAYNE GREEN, August 9, 1957 - aged 16 years.
 DEWEY WASHINGTON HEAD, Dec. 22, 1976 - aged 72 yrs., 5 mos., 11 days.
 ROSA M. HEAD, 1907 - 1962.
 DEWEY W. HEAD 1904 - 1976.
 DEWEY W. HEAD JR. December 21, 1942 - Feb. 19, 1957.
 HATTIE E. ALDRIDGE, June 15, 1889 - March 18, 1941.J.B.
 J.B. ALDRIDGE, Feb. 16, 1881 - March 20, 1957.
 MRS. ALTA WRIGHT, died April 24, 1974, aged 71 yrs., 1 mos., 1 day. (Edwards Funeral Home, Ft. Smith)
 GEORGE W., SON of A. & L.B. BAILEY, aged 11 yrs, 2 mos. 1 day.
 WINNIE E., dau of T.R. & LOU PIPKINS, (could not read dates).
 JAMES A. ROWLAND, Oct. 16, 1826 - April 29, 1882.
 ELIZABETH, Dau of W.B. & E.L. BYRD, Mar. 8, 1875 - Jan. 13, 1879.
 THOMAS M. KING, June 8, 1881, aged 22 yrs., 6 mos. & 13 days.
 THOMAS KING, May 23, 1825 - Sept. 25, 1899.
 SUSAN E. Wife of T.W. KING, Oct. 19, 1829 - Aug. 15, 1901.
 LAURA J., dau of T.W. & S.E. King, Nov. 15, 1853 - Nov. 16, 1883.
 MARY E. DAVIS, January 28, 1887 - aged 51 yrs.
 A.F. KING, June 19, 1868 - January 15, 1933.
 HARRIET L. KING, Jan. 29, 1870 - November 1, 1947.
 ANDY KING, October 27, 1907 - 1941.
 WALTER, son of I.N. & L.A. Jones, Jan. 15, 1874 - July 14, 1874.
 MRS. ELIZABETH FISHER, Wife of D.O. FISHER, d Dec. 6, 1867 age 33 years.
 LITTLE MARTHA, Dau of D.O. & ELIZABETH FISHER, died October 3, 1867, aged 3 yrs, and 25 days.
 JOHN J. BRADSHAW, December 20, 1872 - January 30, 1897.
 OFFE W., son of L. & A. ALLEN, May 20, 1892 - Sept 4, 1893.
 MARY ELIZABETH, Wife of G.W. SCRUGGS, May 21, 1838 - Aug. 16, 1888.
 LEMUEL H. ALLEN, October 4, 1860 - December 4, 1882.
 WILLIE, son of A.J. & CATHERINE ALLEN, September 6, 1879 - May 11, 1882.

LEARD CEMETERY, COLORED

IOLA MAE EUBANKS, 1892 - 1973. (Evans Funeral Home, Poteau, OK.)
 REV. R.W. WALLS, age 64, d June 10, 1935.
 DAISY WALL, 1883 - March 26, 1954.
 FRANK JOHNSON, 1895 - 1967.
 CORA MASSEY BLACK, 1932 - 1976, (Fisher Funeral Home)
 ADA MASSEY, 1890 - 1947.
 FLORENE ADAMS, May 13, 1945 - May 17, 1966.
 MARCUS D. HAYES, died September 27, 1976, age 2 years.
 E.C. FUHR, 1896 - 1967.
 VIVIAN BROWN CUNNINGHAM, Dec. 17, 1892 - Sept. 25, 1976.
 EMMA GORDON, 1873 - 1954.
 ABRAHAM GORDON, October 16, 1863 - February 25, 1944.
 MARY ANN BARRET, March 1, 1861 - February 25, 1944.
 FRANCIS BUTLER, 1883 - 1958.
 JOHN GORDON, 1888 - 1964. - A Mason.
 HUBERT THOMAS MCCLISH, July 23, 1942 - May 16, 1965.
 IZORA LITTLE, 1897 - 1971.
 LEWIS A. GORDON, 1901 - 1966 (Evans Funeral Home, Poteau, Ok.)
 ORELIOUS BEACHEM, August 2, 1958 - September 21, 1974.
 WILLIS MASSEY, JR. 1975-1975 (Evans Funeral Home).
 VERDUS LEE GREEN, March 16, 1973 - September 2, 1973
 BABY BOY GREEN, 1975-1975 (Evans Funeral Home, Poteau, OK.)
 MINNIE HARRIS, 1878-1960
 LANDER BETTIEST, 1877-1961
 CURTIS HENDERSON, 1913-1975 (Evans Funeral Home, Poteau, OK.)
 BABY INEZ WILSON, March 8, 1933 - May 11, 1936
 OLIE THOMAS, December 25, 1903 - June 23, 1949
 OCIE THOMAS SMITH, Feb. 28, 1876 - Dec. 15, 1973
 BOBBIE ABERNATHY, died March 6, 1976
 JOSIE JONES, February 14, 1886 - May 11, 1970
 TENA NIX CARTER, died July 13, 1969 (Evans Funeral Home)
 GENERAL JONES, 1896-1973
 BILLIE PRINCE, 1907-1974
 MARY McCLISH RICHARDSON, April 9, 1916 - Feb. 22, 1976
 JIMMY CLARK, August 15, 1907 - January 22, 1958
 MARY H. WOODRIDGE, February 27, 1876 - November 25, 1961
 D. DIXON, February 14, 1883 - January 22, 1913
 WILLIAM FUHR, July 28, 1872 - January 22, 1913
 LUCY GIVENS, died June 30, 1921 - born 1852
 MAGGIE JOHNSON, 1841-1934, aged 93 years
 MANUEL CARTER, July 10, 1874 - September 17, 1913
 ARTHUR FULSON, July 4, 1895 - June 7, 1925
 WILLIE FULSON, November 18, 1918 - August 28, 1919
 MEDORA PATTERSON, November 17, 1910 - December 22, 1918
 RUBEN ROBERTS, 1930-1966
 EVELYN HEATH, 1919-1951
 ERVIA L. FUHR, 1898-1966
 R.G. HEATH, SR., 1912-1975 (Evans Funeral Home, Poteau)
 SHERMAN CARL HAMILTON, May 16, 1951 - February 22, 1973
 LOUIE THOMAS, 1897-1962
 BEULAH THOMAS, 1903-1942
 J.C. COLE, 1852
 MARY COLE, 1847-1917
 EDMASON - no dates
 MARTHA JOHNSON, died 1907
 MRS. MOSSIE DAVISON, 1886-1972 (Evans Funeral Home)
 WAYNE E. DIXON, 1963-1976
 GUS FITZ, 1869-1955
 ROSIE JOHNSON, 1875-1952, APRIL 12
 JOE ROBERSON, age 28 years, died July 18, 1922
 LARENCE RUCKER, July 23, 1892 - April 3, 1912
 ROY STEPHENS, 1911-1921
 MRS. WILLIE E. STEPHENS, died June 4, 1937

AUSTIN PAUL TRIPLETT, Ark. MA 3C US Navy WWII, Jan. 1, 1916 - July 20, 1946
 LILLIE ROBERSON, April 2, 1892 - April 24, 1969
 FLORENE RICHARDSON, 1923-1940
 CELESTINE TRIPLETT, October 1901 - July 1916
 TOMMIE TRIPLETT, February 3, 1905 - April 1, 1916
 SHERMAN TRIPLETT, December 23, 1916 - November 24, 1918
 MRS. MARTHA TYOUS, died September 9, 1926
 GILES BARRETT, April 1856 - August 31, 1928
 ROSIE LEE TRIPLETT, September 15, 1898 - June 28, 1953
 REV. ISAIAH ANDERSON, August 4, 1896 - October 2, 1968
 REV. SAM ANDERSON, 1883-1977 (Evans Funeral Home, Poteau)
 J. ELMER FUHR, January 19, 1901 - December 8, 1972
 J.D. DeGRAFTENREED, March 15, 1892 - April 20, 1973 (Mason)
 ELNORA PIGGEE, 1914-1951
 SHIRLEY PATRICA PIGGEE, December 29, 1942 - May 28, 1943
 LILLIE C. FREEMAN, 1886-1968
 EFFIE MAE CLARK, 1917-1963
 BIRTHA NIX, Texas Pvt. 164 Depot Brig. WWI., May 15, 1895 - February 28, 1959
 JERLENA CLARK, August 22, 1906 - December 10, 1958
 SAMUEL M. CUMMINGS, 1905-1958

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Meeting of The Arkansas Historical Assn.
 Pine Bluff, Arkansas (Holiday Inn South)
 April 27-28-29, 1978
 The Jefferson County Historical Society is host.
 Open to the public.

Genealogical Congress, New Orleans
 May 29 - June 2
 For further information contact
 Chris Allen (Mrs. Sam Allen)

Arkansas Folklore Society
 April 8, 1978
 Campus Arkansas Tech, Russellville, Arkansas
 Activities begin at 1:00 p.m. with General
 Business Meeting followed by series of
 workshops and presentations.

BLOOPERS

Your editors are getting better at proof reading — only two bloopers showed up this time, that we are aware of, both in the same paragraph on page 58:

William V. was born 1839 instead 1838.
 Mark W. should read Mary W.

BOTTLES, WINDOWS TO THE PAST

By Jim Houston and Mike Hightower*

Americans are notorious collectors. Almost any item you can mention is collected by someone. One collecting hobby that has grown astronomically during the past decade is bottle collecting. In fact, it has become so popular that it is now the fastest growing hobby in America, and the second largest.

Why do people collect bottles? One reason is the historical significance they have. Old bottles reflect a great deal about the culture and history of an area. This is true of many of the bottles which survived the early days of Fort Smith, when the city's role as an outpost on the edge of the Western frontier began the building of a rich historical background. The close proximity of Fort Smith to the Indian territory made it a busy place in the early days, and contributed greatly to the bottle heritage of the area.

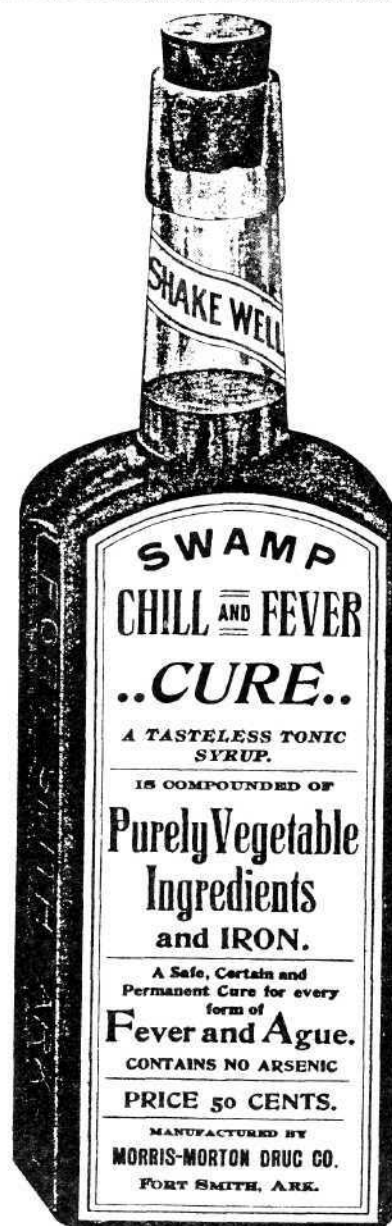
The historical significance of old bottles lies largely in the great numbers of individuals, companies, products, towns and cities that can be identified with particular bottles. Although many of the products packaged in glass in the latter half of the 1800's and early 1900's had wide distribution, the majority of such products were put up for local distribution. And because of the difficulty and expense of transporting the bottles long distances, the containers themselves were made in many glass houses scattered around the country, never far from the places they were to be used. There are two striking characteristics of most of this early glass, which contribute immeasurably to the fascination it holds for collectors: because paper labels were not yet in widespread use, most of the bottles and jars which had identifying names and markings - as most of them did - were embossed; and a great number of producers, even in the smallest communities, had their own, individualized bottles and jars, bearing their names and usually the name of the town and state. Add to this the many different glass formulas in use, resulting in a wide variety of colors- including the amethyst color which clear old glass gets upon exposure to sunlight - and the crude production measures which, in the older glass, made each bottle and jar almost a unique item, and you can begin to appreciate the fascination that such things can hold for a collector.

While many people are general collectors, having an interest in any old bottle without regard to the type, most specialize in one or more categories. Usually, a beginning collector has little appreciation of the tremendous variety of bottles and jars available for collecting. One popular fruit jar book lists over 2,000 different jars; a common bottle book lists over 10,000 varieties of bottles and jars. So, after a short time in the hobby, one is forced to specialize, and need not fear limiting his collecting opportunities. For example, one popular book on ink bottles describes and illustrates 1,078 different ink bottles and ink wells.

Specialization in bottle collecting may be based on the use to which the bottle was put, the area of the country from which it came, the color, shape, method by which it was made, etc. Examples of categories popular among collectors in the Fort Smith area are soda water bottles, both of the modern crown top type and the older Hutchinson type; milk bottles, painted label as well as embossed; and ink bottles, beer bottles, whiskey bottles, bitters bottles, and drugstore bottles (prescription bottles having the drugstore name and city embossed). Some specialize in one or more of these types from Arkansas cities and towns, or from the Fort Smith area in particular. In addition to the bottles, most collectors are happy to obtain "go-withs", such as advertising,

boxes, shot glasses, dose glasses, etc.

A person who becomes interested in bottles can quickly learn quite a lot about the hobby - such things as how to date a bottle, how to distinguish the method by which the bottle was blown, how to find good bottles, and of course something of the comparative values of bottles. There are at least three national monthly magazines devoted to the hobby, and many books in print dealing with specific categories as well as with bottle collecting in general. In addition, there are several hundred bottle collecting clubs around the country, whose members meet monthly to ex-



THE REMEDY THAT CURES.
"ASK YOUR NEIGHBOR"

*Jim Houston and Mike Hightower are instructors at Westark Community College. Jim is president and Mike is secretary of the Fort Smith Area Bottle Collectors Association. Jim, who has one of the outstanding Hutchinson soda bottle collections in the state, has

been collecting for about seven years. The major portion of Mike's collection is ink bottles; he has been collecting for about 4 years. Both also collect bottles from the Fort Smith area.



Hutchinson soda bottles from five Fort Smith bottling companies, left to right: Stolen from Kellium Bottling Works, Fort Smith, Ark.; Stolen from Eureka Bottling Work, Fort Smith, Ark.; Paul Delorvin, Fort Smith, Ark.; Usona Bottling Works, Fort Smith, Ark.; Fort Smith Steam Bottling Works (Meek).

Fort Smith whiskey bottles: Moore & Alexander quart; R. T. Guerin & Co., labeled pint; Moore & Alexander ½ pint; Uncle Sam Distilling Co., miniature jug (sample).



Jim Houston with his collection of Arkansas Hutchinson sodas.

ADVERTISEMENT FROM FORT SMITH NEWSPAPER 1914

WARNING

To all users of milk bottles.

In compliance with an act of the State Legislature which may be found in Kerby's Digest, page 1617, sections 7969 to 7974, we have registered our brand with the County Clerk. The brand being as follows: "PURE MILK CO., FORT SMITH, ARK."

All users of bottles bearing this brand will be prosecuted according to the above act.

FORT SMITH PURE MILK CO.,
By E. E. Taylor, Manager.

change information, trade bottles, and generally to share the enthusiasm so characteristic of collecting hobbyists. Most of the clubs sponsor an annual show and sale, to which collectors and dealers come from wide areas to trade among themselves, offer their surplus or duplicate bottles to other collectors, and to show their prized collections.

Where does one obtain bottles? The purists prefer to dig them, and if a good old dump can be located, and permission to dig obtained, this is certainly the cheapest and quickest way to amass a large collection. To yield quality bottles, a dump should date back to at least 1920, and preferably to the turn of the century or earlier. Such digging sites are becoming increasingly hard to find. A good alternative is demolition sites, where old buildings are being torn down and excavation is going on. It is difficult to understand how so many bottles found their way under so many buildings, or alongside their foundations, but it is not at all uncommon for such a site to yield several good bottles. Other sources include attics, basements and cellars of older homes, where bottles might have been lying untouched for decades. As for sources from which to buy bottles, the best of course is a bottle show and sale, but many are obtained at flea markets, garage sales, etc. Also, there is a large volume of buying and selling by mail among bottle collectors.

The Fort Smith area has some of the most avid bottle collectors in the hobby, and while this area lacks the great variety of colors and shapes found in the eastern part of the country, and they don't date back as far, there is a truly fascinating array to challenge one's sleuthing skills. The history of embossed bottles in Fort Smith goes back to the 1880's and extends to about 1930. There are five major categories that contain significant numbers of bottles: Hutchinson sodas, crown sodas, whiskeys, milks, and prescription and patent medicines.

HUTCHINSON SODAS. The Hutchinson soda is so named because of its unique top and method of closing, first patented by W. H. Hutchinson. This was the original "pop" bottle, first produced in 1870 and continuing in use until about 1910. It probably made its first appearance in Fort Smith about 1880. A wire stopper with a rubber gasket on the end fit into the neck of the bottle, sealing it. To open it, the stopper was hit with the heel of the hand, popping it inward.

There were at least six bottling companies in Fort Smith that used the Hutchinson type bottle. The bottle embossed "Paul Delorvin, Ft. Smith, Ark." is one of the oldest, and the rarest - only one is known to exist. This bottle dates to the early 1890's. Another, embossed "C. Ahrens, Ft. Smith, Ark." is also one of the oldest and rarest, dating from about the same time. Eureka Bottling Works had at least three variations of their Hutchinson bottle, embossed "Eureka Bottling Works, Ft. Smith, Ark."; "Stolen from Eureka Bottling Works, Ft. Smith, Arks." These bottles date from circa 1890-1908. Usona Bottling Works had three variants of their bottle. Two of these have "Frizzell" embossed vertically on the back. These date from 1902-1910. Fort Smith Steam Bottling Works had three variations, one clear, one aqua, and one green. The Fort Smith Steam bottles were used by Meek, with the name Meek embossed on the bottom. These bottles, which date from the early 1890's to about 1910, are among the most common of the Fort Smith Hutchinsons today. Kelleum Bottling Works had at least two variations, one embossed "Return to Kelleum Bottling Works, Ft. Smith, Ark.", and the other "Stolen from Kelleum Bottling Works, Ft. Smith, Ark." Note the difference in the spelling. These bottles are circa 1908-1910.

CROWN SODAS. After the Hutchinson, crown top soda bottles came into use, and with the development of the cork lined metal cap this type provided such an effective seal that its use has continued to the present time. There are a number of fine embossed crown top bottles from Fort Smith, dating to the period 1900-1930.

The Budwine bottles are perhaps the most beautiful. One Budwine was bottled by Hendricks and Braum, about 1912, and the other by J. P. Hendricks. The latter also used three variations

of this bottle, embossed "Budwine." Two of these closely resembled the "Budwine" bottle. The J. P. Hendricks bottles date from about 1914 to 1920. The Meek company was the most prolific user of crown top bottles. The earlier Meek bottles have applied tops (not machine made), which dates them to the early 1900's, and the later varieties extend into the 1930's. Among the Meek crowns are bottles embossed "Ft. Smith Steam Bottling Works" (this replaced the Hutchinson with the same embossing); "Splits Ft. Smith Steam Bottling Works", two sizes; two types of straight-sided Coca-Cola bottles; "Puritas", two types; one just embossed "Meek"; and the "Sunnyside", a beautiful emerald green gingerale bottle. In addition, the first of the modern "Mae West" or "hobbleskirt" Coca-Cola bottles (1915 patent) used in Fort Smith carried the Meek name on the base, which makes them unusual among this type of bottles.

Other crown sodas from Fort Smith are "Boyd's Bottling Works", 1918-1922; "Chero-Cola", 1918-1926; "Frizzell", two types, 1911; and "Kelleum", circa 1912.

WHISKEY. The only known embossed whiskey bottle from Fort Smith is the Moore and Alexander. These bottles appear in half-pint, pint and quart sizes, with the half-pint size being the most common. These date from circa 1912-1914. There are several miniature whiskey jugs with stenciled labels from Fort Smith, including one from the Uncle Sam Distilling Company (two variations), Powell, and others. Several whiskey bottles with paper labels bearing the names of Fort Smith companies are also known. These include J. K. Jones, Crider Club and others. These date from the early 1900's. In addition to whiskey bottles, there are at least eight different varieties of shot glasses bearing Fort Smith company names, either painted or etched in the glass. These include Herring Bros., Williams Liquor, Powell's Liquors, Holberg, and West End.

MILKS. The most common embossed milk bottle from Fort Smith is one from the Fort Smith Pure Milk Company, which used this bottle about 1906-1914. The bottles occur in three variations of the pint size, and in half-pint and third-pint sizes. The only other relatively old embossed Fort Smith milks are those from Sanitary Dairy and Quality Milk Co. Quality Milk Co. had a cream-top quart bottle dated 1927. This is one category in which painted-label bottles are also in considerable demand.

PRESCRIPTION AND PATENT MEDICINES. There are many embossed prescription and patent medicine bottles from the period of about 1895 to 1930. Patent medicines include those embossed "Swamp Chill and Fever Cure/Morris Morton/Ft. Smith, Ark."; "Swamp Chill and Fever Tonic/Morris Morton/Ft. Smith, Ark."; "Swamp Chill and Fever Tonic/Swamp and Dixie Labs, Inc./Ft. Smith, Ark."; and "Schaap's Laxative Chill Tonic/John Schaap and Sons/Ft. Smith, Ark." Prescription bottles include those from Stevenson Drug Co., Godt Bros., Benning and Hat-taway, Caldwell Central Drug Store, Catron and Stevenson, Cruce Drug Co., W. J. Echols & Co., Hawkins Pharmacy, Dr. J. S. McCorkle, J. J. McGee & Son, Palace Drug Store, Red Cross Drug Store, Sanitarium Drug Store, J. M. Sparks Wholesale Druggists, and West End Drug Store.

There may be other Fort Smith bottles still to be discovered. These bottles are buried under old buildings and in old dumps. They are resting in attics and basements, and under houses. Every browse through a flea market, junk shop or antique shop carries the possibility of an exciting find and another addition to the list of bottles which make up a significant segment of our local history.

For those whose interest might have been piqued by this article, we would like to mention the Fort Smith Area Bottle Collectors Association, which meets monthly on the campus of Westark Community College. Annual dues are minimal, and anyone interested is welcome to come out and share in the joys of bottle collecting.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sam Koenig, M.D.*

The early history of St. John's parish is intimately entwined with the emergence of the city of Fort Smith and the struggle for establishment of the Episcopal Church in the western frontier of the 19th century. The church's priests and bishops have left colorful accounts of their visits and periods of tenure in Fort Smith which provide valuable insights into the impressions the town and its citizens made on "outsiders" in those early years.

No Episcopal services of any kind are known to have been given in Arkansas prior to 1838. At the church's General Convention in that year the Rev. Leonidas Polk of Tennessee was elected the first Missionary Bishop of Arkansas and the Indian Territory.¹ The Board of Missions² also resolved to sustain five missionary priests to assist the Rev. Polk in his responsibilities in Arkansas. His first visit to Arkansas which began in February, 1839, was for the express purpose of locating these five priests. He was in the state for approximately 16 days and had intended to visit Fort Smith, but instead traveled to the southern section of the state from Little Rock. Regarding Fort Smith during his first visit he wrote:

"The forts, above mentioned (Ft. Smith and Ft. Gibson), are occupied by the military and their dependents. I heard that the Government intends concentrating the troops in both forts at Fort Smith.³ If so, there would be 1000 or 1500 souls there. This Fort is on the Arkansas river, just under the Indian boundary. Of the expediency of assigning a Missionary to the forts, there can be no doubt as, besides these connected with the stations, there are many others round about to whom the Gospel might be preached."

In the latter part of January, 1841, Bishop Polk visited Fort Smith. This was the first Episcopal visitation to this area. While here, he baptized the two children⁴ of the Major and Mrs. Elias Rector. The bishop related that upon his arrival at the Rector home for this service, "the small son to be presented for baptism took flight. The service was held up until he could be found and returned to base."

Bishop Polk was succeeded in 1841 by the Rev. James H. Otey, Bishop of Tennessee, who had also been appointed Provisional Bishop to Arkansas and the I.T. Bishop Otey passed through Van Buren on his first and third trips to Arkansas. The first in November of 1842 when he notes he bought a buffalo skin robe for \$4.50. His second visit was in July, 1843, at which time he placed the Rev. David McManus⁵ as a missionary priest in Van Buren. McManus was also given charge of Fort Smith. The Bishop finally reached Fort Smith in early April of 1844, arriving from Fort Towson to the south. He described the area south of town as he rode across the Poteau:

"...some good land and some of the most beautiful prairies I ever saw. Mountains on our right, the 'Sugar Loaf'; on our left, Caviniole - called by the Indians, 'Grumbling Mountain' - an extinct volcano. Fine stream; grouse, deer; large mounds. April 3. Left camp early this morning and reached Fort Smith about 9 a.m. Was invited by General Zackary Taylor to his quarter."

*A. S. Koenig, M.D., is a practicing physician in Fort Smith, limiting his practice to pathology. Dr. Koenig, a member of the Fort Smith Historical Society, is also vice president of the board of the Heritage Foundation, a member of the vestry of St. John's Episcopal church, and is presently writing a comprehensive history of St. John's church. Dr. Koenig requests that persons having information or documents that will add to this written history of the church contact him or the church office.

¹ He was also given the additional duties of Provisional Bishop of Louisiana and Episcopal oversight of Mississippi, Alabama and the Republic of Texas.

² The emerging frontier was considered much the same as a foreign country in the Church's missionary efforts. Indeed, in 1820, the General Convention of the Episcopal Church had divided the Board of Missions into Foreign and Domestic Committees.

After dinner rode with Major Hunter to see Mr. Berryhill, Mrs. Bates, Mrs. Pease, Mrs. Magee, and returned. Mr. McManus is, I hear sick.

April 4. Rode with General Taylor this morning and viewed the new fortifications. Bought cigars, belting, bags, \$6. Saw Colonel Loomis and lady, Mrs. Hunter, Houghman, and daughter. Dined with General Taylor, then rode to Van Buren. Saw Mr. McManus, who read prayers at night. I preached in C. H. Congregation large and attentive."⁶

In 1844, the Rev. George Washington Freeman became the second Missionary Bishop of Arkansas and the Indian Territory. In the latter part of that year or early the next he visited Van Buren where he wrote: "I found in Van Buren no communicants, no candidates for confirmation and no congregation proper."⁷ The Rev. McManus had held services on alternate Sundays⁸ in a "house of worship common to all religious bodies." The Bishop then preached twice at services in Fort Smith and noted they were well attended by officers of the U.S. Army who were in Fort Smith attending a court martial. At this time the bishop also arranged for the Rev. McManus to be made chaplain at Fort Gibson, giving his spare time to missionary work in Arkansas. The services which had been held in Fort Smith and Van Buren, accordingly suffered even more.

In the fall of the following year the Rev. Charles C. Townsend, a missionary from Bowling Green, Kentucky, arrived penniless in Little Rock. He was desirous of obtaining work in the field in Arkansas. Bishop Freeman took him on a trip to Van Buren and Fort Smith, and on the evening of November 25, 1845, they conducted services in Fort Smith. The Bishop records:

"Finding that Mr. Townsend was acceptable to the people of both places and hearing a very general expression of desire that he might be employed as a missionary there, I appointed him to the station, and on Tuesday, the 9th of December, left him in the exercise of the duties of his mission..."

The first sermon which Rev. Townsend preached in Fort Smith after his arrival was in the dining room of the City Hotel which was owned by Mr. John Rogers. The Rev. Townsend was the first Episcopal priest stationed in Fort Smith. The success and failure of his tenure is recorded, in addition to the Bishop's diary, in a series of letters written by an early parishoner, William A. Falconer, to his mother in Baltimore. Dr. Falconer lived on the Texas Road (now Towson Ave.) south of town, and was a farmer and itinerant physician. On July 20, 1846, he wrote:

"...I have quite a respectable number in family, of youngsters my own number 6 is increased by 2 orphan females, whose mother was a poor unfortunate, her dying request of Mr. Townsend was that he should provide for them & solicited me to take them; 3 of Mr. McMurty's children are with me going to school and I expect to have 2 of Mary's brothers who wish to go to school. They will assist in getting in my hay, for their board, etc., - making 13 in all."

³ Construction on the second Fort Smith had just begun in early 1839.

⁴ Harriet Amanda Rector, then 3½ years old, and William V. Rector, age 2½ years, later dying in early childhood.

⁵ The Rev. McManus later became the second rector of St. John's Church.

⁶ These two diary entries list what was probably the majority of the Episcopal "congregation" at that time. However, it was some years later before Ft. Smith Episcopalians were actually organized into a parish.

⁷ This is an interesting note since Bishop Otey had "walked in procession" on April 5, 1844 to lay the cornerstone for Trinity Church, Van Buren, after preaching to a large congregation on the previous evening.

⁸ This would seem to imply that the alternate Sunday services were being held in Fort Smith, most probably at the fort. The Book of Prayer was used by the military at that time.

In spite of Townsend's caring for his "flock" the progress of the parish development was slow. In June of 1847, Bishop Freeman wrote to the board of Missions:

"The prospects of the Missions at Van Buren and Fort Smith are not as bright as could be wished. After sustaining it for four or five years, at an expense of more than two thousand dollars, the church has not obtained a foothold so as to secure a separate place of worship at either place... and should this state of things continue much longer, in the judgement of the undersigned, it would seem the Mission has essentially failed. The present Missionary having heedlessly, and contrary to the advice of the Bishop, embarrassed himself with a small school,⁹ and, unfortunately, become impaired in health, is unable to bestow the time and labor deemed necessary to insure anything like success at these points."

He also noted that there were only 10 or 12 Episcopal communicants at this time in the Fort Smith-Van Buren area.¹⁰

These thoughts must have made an impression on the Rev. Townsend for the Bishop visited Fort Smith again the following January and a description of the activity was recorded by Dr. Falconer in a letter to his mother on January 8, 1848:

".... The Rev. Mr. Townsend, an affectionate man, is our pastor. He holds services alternately every Sunday at this place & Van Buren, the Co. seat 5 miles distant."¹¹ The church is growing in favour & the Sunday school is well attended. Bishop Freeman is here at this time on his tour of visitation. On Sunday the 2nd of this month he preached morning and afternoon: the imposing ceremony of confirmation was administered to 12 & I feel proud to tell you that your first born ratified the solemn promises made for him in Baptism by his affectionate parents. Mary was likewise confirmed at the same time. The sacrament of Baptism was administered about a month ago to Mary & all the children at home at night in the presence of Mary's mother alone.

Mr. Townsend, in compliance with my request, stood sponsor. We have a very spacious room elegantly fitted up in the Garrison with seats and pulpit by the officers of the U.S. Army at this place expressly for the use of the Prot. E. Church & I expect soon to have Mr. T. preach at my house which he is desirous of doing at stated times. The Bishop has promised to call and see us before he leaves these parts."

Mr. Falconer later noted that the Bishop could not make his visit due to inclement weather. The mission continued to progress and about this time was apparently organized into a parish with a vestry. Mr. Falconer's letter of July 5th, 1848, provides the only currently known record of this parish:

"I am pleased to have it in my power to report progress in our Church affairs (the Parish of All Saints) is quite a respectable congregation as to person & numbers & is steadily growing. There is a Sunday School attached to it and doing well. The Ladies of the Bishop White Library Assn. of Phila. have shown great liberality and zeal and in our cause by the remittance at different time of Testaments, prayer books, & Sunday school books for distribution. Mr. Townsend is desirous that I should establish a Sunday school at our house. I have not given my consent yet, fearing it will deprive me of the pleasure of attending church in town. He thinks that such a commencement would lead to the formation of another parish, I expect he would then leave the parish at Van Buren to be attached to some other."

....As a matter of course all action in the matter (getting books in Balt) would be left to the Vestry, of which I am a member. You know the success attending upon our exertions is in a great degree dependent upon the encouragement held out by rewards of premiums for good conduct & attention. The pecuniary resources of our Parish are too limited to do much in this direction without assistance. Mr. T. and his lady spent the day with us recently. He is very desirous of having worship at our house at stated times of a week day. His duties will not permit of his holding services on the Sabbath."

In 1848 Rev. Townsend reported to Bishop Freeman that there were 25 communicants in Fort Smith. The temporal success of the parish was short lived as noted by Bishop Freeman's report to the Board of Missions regarding his May 1849 visit to Fort Smith:

"The congregation here have been deprived of their convenient place of worship in the garrison sooner than I anticipated; the building having been destroyed by fire."¹² At the time of my visit they occupied a school house, a little out of town. ¹³ But of this, they have been since deprived,¹⁴ the proprietor having let it for a private dwelling; and, at the time of my departure from the vicinity, they were in a little perplexity. It is hoped that feeling now the necessity, they will make a serious effort to build a church. In my last report I mentioned that the missionary at this point 'had wisely disembarrassed himself of the toil and confinement of a boarding school.' I am now sorry to say he has returned to his favorite occupation, and is again entangled with a school, consisting of thirty scholars, and ten or twelve boarders. This, living as he does, in the country, four miles distant from one of his stations, and with a river between him and the other, must materially interfere with the due discharge of his parochial duties, and the success of his Mission."

Dr. Falconer died unexpectedly of pneumonia in August 1849. The Reverend Townsend subsequently visited the family and in a letter to Dr. Falconer's aunt, Miss Susan Birkhead of York, Penn., he confirmed his affiliation with a school and described the condition of the church in December, 1849. It is not known where services were being held at this time.

".... I have taken a great interest in every member of them from my first acquaintance with Dr. Falconer and since his death it has uniformly been my study and desire to conduct them in the old paths of the Church and alleviate the sorrows of their bereavement. We had Susan, Mrs. F's sister, in our Mission School for some time and her improvement was very encouraging. She was confirmed and became a communicant of the Church. I offered to educate her provided she would remain with us, but since our removal to town she has never returned...."

Our Church, I am glad to say, is in a flourishing (growing) condition although, by the Domestic Committee, it is not supported. I suppose that they do all that they can, but my salary has been due more than a year. Our congregations are large & attentive & I have some good reason to hope that the good seed of the word is taking root in this barren soil, or rather soil which has heretofore been so productive in thorns and thistles. We have now a Sunday School for colored children, which is well attended & doing good."

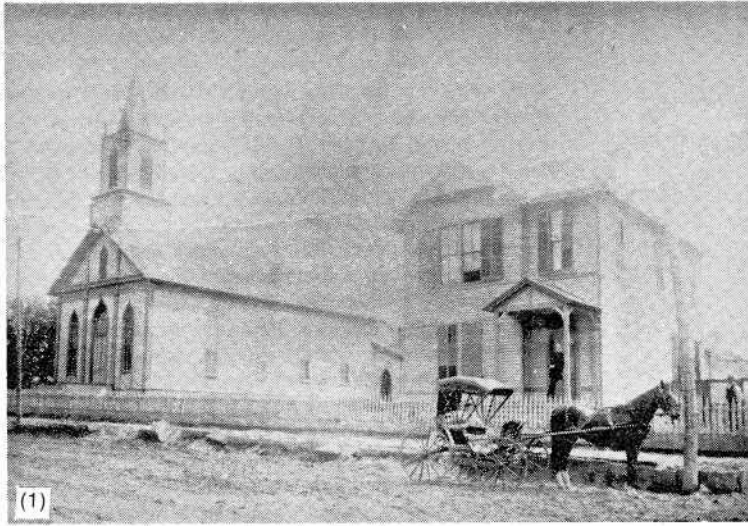
⁹ The Prairie Female Seminary located at Nowland Springs, between Van Buren and Fort Smith.

¹⁰ It is interesting to note that the year 1847 is stated in Diocesan records as the official founding year of St. John's Parish. This year of founding was submitted to the Diocese in response to a request by the secretary of the Diocese in 1902.

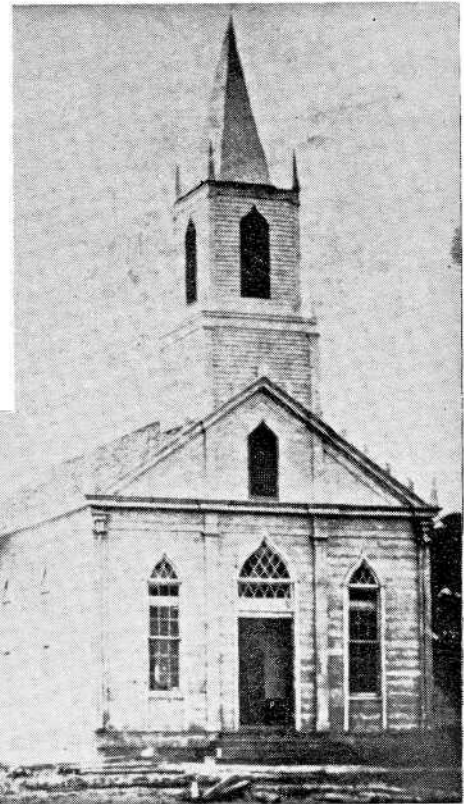
¹¹ Fort Smith was in Crawford County until formation of Sebastian county in January 1851.

¹² The room set aside at the Garrison for the use of the parish must have been in the enlisted men's barracks which was destroyed by fire April 9, 1849.

¹³ This was located on the corner of what is now North 5th and "A" Streets.



(1)



(3)



(4)



(2)



(5)

- (1) Frame Church and Rectory about 1887
- (2) Interior of frame church
- (3) Frame church about 1898
- (4) First Easter in the new stone church — 1900
- (5) Present day church and parish house and Sunday school

The Rev. Townsend alluded to storm clouds regarding his tenure in Fort Smith. There was no improvement in this situation and All Saints Parish came to an end in 1852. Bishop Freeman reported:

"On Saturday, Jan. 24th, I proceeded to Fort Smith, where on Sunday I preached twice, the Rev. Mr. Townsend reading Prayers in the morning. The congregation at this place has become very small and Mr. Townsend, having ceased to be generally acceptable, he has, with my approbation, discontinued officiating at Fort Smith, and having changed his residence to Van Buren, is to confine his labors to that point."

Fort Smith was for the next several years without benefit of any full time Episcopal clergyman. Services were probably conducted intermittently in homes and stores by the Episcopal clergy who remained in the area; the Rev. David McManus who was chaplain at Fort Gibson, I.T. until 1857; the Rev. William Binet who was assigned missionary priest at Van Buren sometime in 1859; the Rev. Otis Hackett who was assigned to St. Paul's Parish in Fayetteville in 1854; and the Rev. John Burke, Chaplain U.S.A.

Other families active in the church up to this time in addition to those already mentioned, were headed by George and Charlie Birnie, William DuVal, Col. Sam Rutherford, Gen. R. C. Gatlin, General Stephen Wheeler, R. M. Johnson, W. H. Mayers, John B. Luce, and Dr. J. H. Bailey, the surgeon at the Fort.

Following the death of Bishop Freeman in 1858, and interim provisional supervision by Bishop Otey, Henry Champlin Lay was appointed the third Missionary Bishop to Arkansas in 1859. He was also to be the Missionary Bishop for Indian Territory, New Mexico, and Arizona. He was very concerned with establishing his headquarters in a location that was convenient for travel in his missionary district. He chose Fort Smith in the fall of 1859 for the principal reason of its centrality to the missionary district. He described Fort Smith as follows:

"My home is within a stone's cast of the Indian line, and we have reason to expect that Santa Fe will, in the fall, be accessible by stage in fifteen days.

Fort Smith is the great trading point with the Indians. Every large store has its interpreter. Daily we see the red men coming in on their little ponies, and may hear their strange discourse. This place is also the point of departure for the West. We see officers of the army, Indian agents, and traders, from whom much valuable information may be gained. The wonderful enterprise which these men exhibit, the carelessness with which they speak of hardships and perils, are very instructive to the missionary of the Church....

One of the marvels of the age is the overland mail. Had its success been partial, had terrible disaster occurred from time to time, we would have appreciated the grandeur of the undertaking. The completeness of its success hinders it from being appreciated. Think of a stage traversing this continent, through arid plains and the most hostile marauding Indians, and yet performing its trips without accident or delay!..A special providence has watched over them. Once only the stage was stopped by Indians. They made the passengers dismount, emptied the stage, turned it over, and examined its every part. They then restored it to its place, and, their curiosity being satisfied, sent it on its way. They regard it as 'an institution'...."¹⁴

¹⁴ The Bishop wrote his report in August 1849.

¹⁵ In the previous year Fort Smith's role as a communications center in the southwest had expanded tremendously. The Garrison had become the major supply depot for a large number of smaller forts in the expanding frontier. These included Fort Wayne, Fort Gibson, Fort Cobb, Fort Towson, Fort Arbuckle, and Fort Belknap among others. This had led to the development of a number of military roads to each of these outposts and the "California Road" was heavily used by the emigrants outfitting in Fort Smith. In 1858 the Missouri River and Western Telegraph Company had installed a line from St.

Commensurate with the appointment of Bishop Lay and his visit to Fort Smith, two significant events occurred. The first was that a tract of land was given in 1859 by George S. Birnie for the use of the Protestant Episcopal Church. This is the same lot occupied by the church today at North 6th and "C" Streets. The second event was the Rev. John Sandels moved from Fayetteville to Fort Smith in the fall of 1859 or early 1860. The organization of St. John's Parish was begun. A vestry was organized in January 1860 and consisted of the following persons: George S. Birnie, Mitchell Sparks, Joseph Sparks, Joseph Walton, John Pearson, R. M. Johnson, Peter Y. Brooke, Samuel Griffith, W. H. Mayers, Dr. Nicholas Spring, and George Wolf. The parish register begun on March 25, 1860, lists George Birnie as the first recorded communicant. The first recorded baptism occurred March 10 for Franklin Frederick Bollinger.

Bishop Lay arrived back in Fort Smith with his family on June 24th. Work was begun almost immediately on a frame church that faced "C" Street. George Birnie assisted in the construction, and his son, Charles, who was a tinner, was given the contract for putting on the roof. During construction, the recently installed roof was blown off in a storm and had to be relaid. Charles was to have been paid \$110 in gold for his efforts. However, completion occurred just before the outbreak of the Civil War and he was paid in Confederate money. The bell for the new church was donated by O.C. Word, Sr. The bell's history carries the story of workmen, who, when it had been uncrated, informed Mr. Word that it would have to be sent back because it was cracked, not realizing that it was a replica of the Liberty Bell.

On August 19th, 1860, the first confirmations in the new church were performed and included Anne Maria Mareau, Virginia American Black, Virginia Brown, Sarah Jane Kannady, Mary E. Tracey, Maria Jenssen, Helen M. Pulliam, Ellen Coyne, and Mary Elizabeth Walton. The first marriage was that of Charles Axman and Anna K.S. Mayers. The first burial officiated by Rev. Sandels was of Major Francis Nelson Page who was buried in Major Rector's graveyard.¹⁶

Little else is currently known about this first promising year of St. John's parish. However, this good beginning was to be short lived. Lincoln was elected President in November, and soon after, the sectional turmoil was felt in Fort Smith. The Garrison was evacuated by the Federal troops the evening of April 23, 1861, and Arkansas seceded on May 6th. Bishop Lay remained in Fort Smith the remainder of 1861 and the first two months of 1862. During this period he resigned as Missionary Bishop of the General Church to become a bishop in the Episcopal Church in the Confederate States. The progress of the parish was most certainly impaired by the mustering of troops and Confederate activity at the Garrison. The pain and despair of the city with the advance of Federal troops in early 1862 was recorded by the bishop:

"During the winter I officiated very constantly in Fort Smith and Van Buren. In the former place I confirmed three persons and in the latter confirmed one person and baptized two infants.

During the latter part of February, 1862, the community was thrown into much confusion by the advance of the Federal Army, and I made arrangements to remove my family to a place of greater security.

Feb. 18. I committed to the grave the body of my son, Thomas Atkinson. It was a dark and lonely day, a time of public apprehension, when I could not call on friends to aid me. I buried him with no other help than that of my domestics, and myself read the office for the dead."

Louis to Fort Smith. Messages could now be sent and received from the east coast in a matter of a few hours. Riverboat traffic was heavy, bringing in supplies for the outlying forts from St. Louis and New Orleans. Also in 1858, the Overland Mail Service began in Fort Smith with the stage routes from Memphis and St. Louis converging in Ft. Smith. From here the stage was able to reach El Paso and California in 15½ days. The population of Fort Smith at this time was about 2500.

¹⁶ This may be the person referred to in Kate Rector's diary entry November 7, 1866, published in the last issue of this journal.

The Rev. Sandels continued on in Fort Smith in the best manner possible for another year, but when the fate of the Confederacy in Fort Smith became obvious, and Federal troops were in the immediate vicinity of the city, he fled in March of 1863. The church was closed and remained so until January of 1866. The city was plundered of its once attractive agricultural assets by the five years occupation of Confederate and Federal troops. Bishop Lay returned to Arkansas in March of 1866 and in his report to the Board of Missions described what he found:

"In the course of my travels I have found the people reduced in circumstances, many in great suffering. Thus in Sebastian county where I used to live, the county reports 3,000 persons indigent. At Fort Smith during the month of March, rations were issued by the Government to 3,107 white persons. Poor creatures! The road was full of them. A woman walking forty miles sometimes with a child in her arms to draw some bread and bacon, which she must carry on her shoulders to the children at home. Not a tithe of the misery can be reached. The Freedmen are well to do.... And there is a famine of the word of God! I know not how many have said to me 'we have not heard a sermon since you were here last', two, three, four years ago, in that time no service of any sort."

The Rev. Sandels returned to St. John's in the fall of 1866 and resumed regular church services in the little frame church. By 1868 he had established a "female school under his direction" and there was a "Sunday school for white children and one for colored, both doing well." The parish continued to grow during the era of Reconstruction. Bishop Henry N. Pierce visited the parish at Easter in 1870 and noted:

"This visit to Fort Smith is one of the bright and sunny spots of life to which my memory will often turn. The society at Fort Smith is excellent and not inferior to the best I have ever seen in any city, great or small. The Church here has been repaired and enlarged by the addition of a recess chancel. There is great hope the parish may soon become self-supporting..."

Following evening services on Easter Monday a congregational meeting was held "to determine whether the pews for the ensuing year should be rented... The congregation decided for free pews. Thank God, thank God."

The Reverend Sandels moved to Camden in November, 1870, to assume the rectorship there. St. John's was then without a rector for almost a year, but during that time (July 25, 1871) the little frame church was consecrated, an important milestone indicating that the church was completely debt free.

From a few struggling "Anglicans" to a self-supporting congregation, these were the beginnings of Saint John's Episcopal Church. In later years the women of the church became organized and were instrumental in the building of the present church, erected in 1899. The Rev. George Degen, with the help of the church, founded St. John's Hospital which has evolved through the years into Sparks Regional Medical Center. In more recent years the St. John's School was begun. Today St. John's is a "young" church with activities in numerous areas and a membership over 750. In the words of an earlier member of St. John's: "It is the hope and earnest prayer of all the members that the dark and despondent days for the parish are past; and that Saint John's may continue to grow in spiritual fervor and energy."

RECIPE

The St. John's Women's Guild published a Holiday Cookbook in 1910 and 1922. The 1922 edition contains numerous mouth

watering recipes by the city's ladies, but the following one by Mrs. R. S. Robertson wins the cake.

FRUIT CAKE - Two pounds butter, two pounds sugar, thirty-two eggs, two pounds sifted flour, four glasses plum jelly, two large nutmegs grated, two tablespoonfuls ground cloves, two and one-half tablespoonfuls cinnamon, one tablespoonful allspice, one tablespoonful mace, one-half pint brandy, one-fourth pint Jamaica rum four pounds raisins, three and one-fourth pounds candied pineapple, three and one-fourth pounds candied cherries, three and one-half pounds other mixed candied fruits, two and one-half pounds almond, two and one-half pounds pecans, one pound citron, one-half pound candied orange peel, one-half pound candied lemon peel. All fruits and nuts mixed and weighed after seeding, blanching and cutting. Cream the butter and sugar, add the beaten yolks of eggs and the flour; add the beaten whites of eggs, spices, fruits and nuts, having previously dredged thoroughly the fruit and nuts (mixed) with a quart and a little more of flour, which is to be measured after it is sifted, and is extra to the two pounds mentioned in the proportion for the batter. This may seem too little batter for the fruits, but it is enough to hold it together, as this is truly a fruit cake. Steam four hours, then bake three-quarters of an hour in a slow oven. Tie two or three thickness of brown paper over cake pans to keep them dry while steaming. This quantity will make three large and three small cakes. After cakes have cooled, pour brandy over them and keep them wrapped in cloth. Keep them wet with brandy for a while. Better if baked a month before using, as the more brandy they absorb the better the cake.

In the same issue appeared the following hints and helps:

The Housekeeper's Alphabet

Apply ammonia for orange or lemon juice stains.

Burns, apply alum water of soda.

Cut warm bread or cake with hot knife.

Disinfect sick room with burning coffee.

Equal parts sweet oil, vinegar and spirits turpentine make an excellent polish.

Felon, apply rennet soaked in milk, renew until relief is found.

Grease spots removed from a carpet by using chloroform, or ammonia and water.

Hot sunshine will remove scorch.

Ink spots removed from white goods by soaking in milk or applying lemon juice.

Jars holding a pint are more economical for preserves in small family.

Kerosene applied to unused stoves will prevent rust.

Lamp burners improved by boiling in strong soda water or ashes, then rub with a fine cleaning soap.

Mildew, soap the spots, covering while wet with whiting, lay out in the sun.

New Iron should be heated gradually to prevent cracking.

Orange and lemon peel should be dried, pounded and kept in glass bottles.

Pour boiling water upon fruit stains in linen or cotton.

Quince seed will make a good curling fluid.

Rub men's soiled coats with equal parts ether, ammonia and alcohol.

Soap is injurious to oil cloth; best cleaned with milk and water.

Tinware may be cleaned and brightened by scouring with soda.

Use cream and ink for defaced kid boots.

Variety is the culinary spice.

Wheel grease, wash with cold water and soap.

Xantippe was a scold; don't imitate her.

You should never polish windows while the sun shines on them.

Zinc can be cleaned with kerosene.

POETS AND POETRY

By: Amelia Martin

In the early 1900's, Lora (Gaines) Goolsby, a young widow, was vacationing with her daughter in Manitou, Colorado. An "All States Day" was declared and the people from each state were to sing their own state song. Lora did not know a state song for Arkansas, but as usual, she rose to the occasion, and wrote her own song:

ARKANSAW

Ours is a state—the only one
That's named in Holy Writ sir,
When Noah, tired of wind and rain,
Stepped out of the Ark and Saw it sir.
Rich is its soil, and bright its skies,
Fine streams run in and out it, sir.

But when it comes to "trying" out
The only fair, true, test, sir,
She towers like the sturdy oak,
Far, far, above the rest, sir.
In corn and cotton, rice and grain
She stands right in the lead, sir,
And if you fenced her from the world,
Could all her people feed sir.

We've pears and peaches, berries, plums,
Grapes, and cherries, for our pies, sir
And well you know, the whole world o'er
Our apples take the prize, sir.

And all our streams are filled with fish
Of flavor, rich and rare, sir,
And should you wish to hunting go,
We've game from coon to bear, sir.

We've coal and iron, gas and oil,
And marble for to quarry,
We've slate and chalk and beds of pearls
And diamonds too, Begorry.
And should you take the rheumatism
Past what you can endure, sir,
Come take the baths in our Hot Springs
For they will surely cure, sir.

In politics we're "going some",
Just look at Governor Hays, sir,
He is the twentieth we've had,
In exactly thirty days, sir.
The half we have, has not been told
Of Arkansaw, our text, sir,
But we must close, and our story'll be
Continued in our next, sir.

Lora Gaines Goolsby,
Philadelphia Cottage



Lora (Gaines) Goolsby, a native of Scott County, Arkansas and a resident of Fort Smith for forty-four years, was descended from Thomas Gaines of Aberdeen, Brecon County, Wales, who came to America in the 1620's and settled in Virginia. The daughter of Francis Cornelius and Mary (Torbett) Gaines, she was born Frances Lorena Gaines, 22 March 1869. Because Scott County, Arkansas, was no exception to the rest of the South immediately following the Civil War, and schools were almost non-existent, Lora was taught by tutors, and by her mother, a well-educated woman. After completing her education, she taught school for four years in Scott County before she was married on 22 November 1892 to Able Embry Goolsby, a rural merchant and one of the founders of the bank at Waldron, Arkansas (He died 25 Nov. 1903).

The Goolsbys had one child, a daughter, Glenn Pendleton Goolsby, who is now Mrs. James Franklin Blakemore, a resident of Fort Smith.

About 1910, Lora (Gaines) Goolsby, a vivacious, creative, energetic woman, moved to Fort Smith, where she was a leader in the community; a dedicated historian and genealogist; a charter member of the Arkansas Library Board; served as the state president of the United Daughters of the Confederacy; vice president of the Arkansas Federated Clubs; president of the board of the Old Commissary Museum for twenty five years; was active in the Daughters of the American Revolution, the First Christian Church and the Democratic Party. She attended three National Democratic Conventions as a delegate from Arkansas.

In January, 1959, just before her ninetieth birthday, death came for Lora Gaines Goolsby, ending her long and active life. She was laid to rest beside her husband in the Duncan Cemetery at Waldron.

Compiled by BLAKEMORE, Glenn Goolsby ANCESTOR CHART #
 street 1225 Elizabeth Lane
 city Fort Smith, Ark. 72901

<p>4 GAINES, James Foster (Father of 2) B 20 July 1805 PB Warrenton, Va. M 18 June 1836 (TN) D 1853 PD Parks (Scott Co), Ark.</p>	<p>8 GAINES, Cornelius (Father of 4) B 12 March 1779 PB Prince Wm. Co., VA M D 8 August 1847 PD 9 FOSTER, Susanna "Sukie" (Mother of 4) B 1786 PB D ca 1824 PD Prince Wm. Co., VA</p>	<p>16 GAINES, William (Rev Soldier) B 13/3/1754 (Father of 8) M D 1818 17 BOTTS, Jane B 8/1/1757 (Mother of 8) D 1826 18 FOSTER, James B June 1750 (Father of 9) M D 10 Sept 1800 19 GRIGSBY, Elizabeth B 15/5/1753 (Mother of 9) D 1 May 1837</p>
<p>2 GAINES, Francis Cornelius (Father of 1) B 29 March 1844 PB Parks (Scott Co), Ark. M 12 April 1865 D 21 July 1883 PD Waldron (Scott Co), Ark.</p>	<p>10 HALLEY, Rev. Francis (Father of 5) B PB M D PD 11 , Sarah (Mother of 5) B PB D PD</p>	<p>20 (Father of 10) B M D 21 (Mother of 10) B D 22 (Father of 11) B M D 23 (Mother of 11) B D</p>
<p>5 HALLEY, Pamela Frances (Mother of 2) B 11 November 1816 PB Lynchburg, Va. D 29 October 1888 PD Parks, Ark.</p>	<p>12 TORBETT, Hugh (Father of 6) B PB M D PD 13 , Jane (Mother of 6) B PB D PD</p>	<p>24 TORBETT, Samuel B 1764 (Father of 12) M D 1843 25 , Jane B 1765 (Mother of 12) D 1833 26 (Father of 13) B M D 27 (Mother of 13) B D</p>
<p>1 GAINES, Frances Lorena B 22 March 1869 PB Scott Co, Ark. M 22 November 1892 D January 1959 PD Fort Smith, Ark. Bu Waldron, Ark.</p>	<p>6 TORBETT, John Harrington (Father of 3) B 6 May 1806 PB Tennessee M D 1858 in Arkansas PD House of Representatives</p>	<p>28 RIDDLE, Thomas (Am. Rev.) (Father of 14) B M D 29 ROBERTS, (Mother of 14) B D 30 (Father of 15) B M D 31 (Mother of 15) B D</p>
<p>3 TORBETT, Mary Evelyn (Mother of 1) B 17 February 1843 PB Harrison (Hamilton Co) TN D 1888 PD</p>	<p>14 RIDDLE, Thomas (Father of 7) B Before Rev. War PB M D August 1859 PD Bradley Co., TN 15 IGON, Mary (Mother of 7) B PB D PD</p>	<p>7 RIDDLE, Margaret Igon (Mother of 3) B 1819 PB D PD</p>

Spouse of #1:
 GOOLSBY, Able Embry

B 9 April 1859 D 25 Nov 1903
 PB Carroll Co. GA PD Scott Co, Ark.

For extended family history see FAMILY RECORDS, compiled by Mabel
 (Hon) Woods -- Fort Smith Public Library.

CONCLUSION OF THE RECTOR DIARY



Catherine Duval Rector (Mrs. Elias Rector)

Picture courtesy of Fadjo Cravens, Jr.

Prepared for printing by Carolyn Pollan

This diary is continuation of the diary which was begun in the December 1877 JOURNAL. The diary was started by 15 year old Kate Rector, October 16, 1866, and leaves off when she goes to school in St. Louis November 23, 1866. Kate's mother, Catherine DuVal Rector takes up the diary shortly after this on December 6, 1866.

Catherine was born in 1818 in Wellsburg, West Virginia. She was the daughter of Mr & Mrs. Wm. DuVal. She married Elias Rector in Fort Smith on November 25, 1835.

The Rector family was trying to get over the effects of the Civil War. Almost all of their wealth was lost in the war. As Catherine's diary begins, it seems to be one long sigh of what once was but could never be again. And, one long round of hiring and firing of household help.

Catherine and Elias Rector's children are prominent in this diary. They are Harriet Amanda (nicknamed Shingo), born June 3, 1837; William V., born June 10, 1839, (died in infancy); John D., born June 21, 1846. He died in Civil War action in 1864 at Fulton, Arkansas, under his brother-in-law, Gen. Cabell's command; James B., born August 17, 1848; Kate, born September 22, 1851; Sue P., born June 30, 1854; Mary W. (nicknamed Minnie) born November 1, 1858; Elias (nicknamed Lidy) born June 13, 1860.

Most mis-spellings have been left as she wrote them and they were transcribed, i.e., stake for steak. The diary is presented in abbreviated form leaving out many of the repetitious daily happenings.

As this diary was written, the rector family lived on what is now the C.A. Lick place, at 1456 North 41st Street.

Dec. 6, 1866

I take up Kate's Journal tonight to continue it. Oh, My dear child, how I miss you. Today I put your workbox away and letters.

Dec. 8, 1866

Susy and Bennie got up very early and went to mass. Jimmie went in for the ambulance and I went in shopping. It was very cold crossing the prairie. Shingo²⁷ was all in a fusiment, fixing to move Monday. She went shopping with me. I saw Brother Ben.²⁸

Dec. 9, 1866

Have spent this blessed day looking over papers for Maj. R.²⁹ looking over and reading old papers. What crowd of melancholy recollections. We had a partridge pie for dinner.

Dec. 11, 1866

Cut Maj. R. out 3 pairs of drawers. Mr. Littel was here this morning early to buy a piece of land. Took a walk this evening, went to the graveyard. How consoling to my feelings now that I can visit the grave of my darling boy. Why should we fret and worry for the things of this life, when life is so short.

Dec. 15, 1866

Jimmie bought a keg of lard, a small firkin of butter, raisins, and currants, citron, for my mincemenat - two bushels of apples.

Dec. 18, 1866

Made some beef foot jelly, helped Dosje make the sausage. I expected Mr. and Mrs. Luce³⁰ out to supper and stay all night. They got lost and did not get out until after supper was over. Maj. Rector bought a piece of land from Mr. Tyler for Jimmie. I am so tired. If Kate was here she would relieve me of all this trouble. Maj. R. received a letter from Uncle Nate telling of their arrival at St. Louis.

Dec. 19, 1866

After Mr. and Mrs. Luce and Son left, I stoned my raisins, and made my mince meat. Jimmie was so disappointed that he could not go and help get cedar to strip the church for Christmas. Sold 13 bushels of turnips at 25 cents per bushel to Mr. Litel. God in His mercy help make me more firm in my management of my family. Forgive me my Heavenly Father for the sins of the day, and bless all of those that are near and dear to me.

Dec. 20, 1866

Emily and I finished the childrens dresses. I cut the waist of my black delain dress. I am fixing up all my old dresses. I do not feel able to get new ones. I received a letter from Kate. She had arrived at St. Louis and her aunts and family were so delighted to see her. I pray God she may be happy. I think she would prefer going to a protestant school. If my wishes were consulted, I should send her to an Episcopal school.

Dec. 22, 1866

I rode Lidy's pony and went into town with Maj. R. Shingo was just going downtown. I went with her. We called to see Mrs. H. Myers, Mrs. Spring, Mrs. Watson. Went shopping — bought some toys.

December 23, 1866

Elias³¹ came home with Jimmie—were at our dinner when they came. Elias told us of a narrow escape he made of being killed by a drunken Indian attacking when in the county visiting a patient.

²⁷ Harriet Amanda Rector Cabell, Catherine's oldest daughter.

²⁸ Benjamin Taylor DuVal, brother of Catherine.

²⁹ Catherine's name for her husband, Elias Rector.

³⁰ Mr. and Mrs. John Luce, a prominent Fort Smith family.

³¹ Dr. Elias Rector DuVal, Catherine's brother.

Dec. 24, 1866

Maj. R. and Jimmie and Susy and Minnie went to town. Jimmie to help them fix the Church. Susy and Minnie to spend the day with their sister. Susy stayed all night, so as to go to early mass with Sister. I was very busy all day. If I could only go back to my childhood days. I miss dear Kate.

Dec. 25, 1866

Christmas Day. The children up before time looking into their stockings, blessed happy children. Shingo and Gen., Elias and Dora and Brother Ben ate Christmas dinner with us. Maj. R. payed Burrell and Iseral off. They rented the Woods place. Jimmie went to a party at Col. Brooks, took Miss Lula Sandels. Lidy very sick tonight.

Dec. 28 1866

Jimmie went hunting, did not kill anything. Gen. Cabell³² sent out and got a load of corn. Maj. R. Feels so anxious to hear from his lawsuit that was to be tried today. This night one year ago was the Amnesty Ball in Fort Smith. Oh my God the changes since then. Poor Turner³³ and how many others gone to their long home. Midst all the trouble how many things I have to be thankful for.

Dec. 29, 1866

The ground covered with snow this morning when we got up. The children had a nice time snowballing. Jimmie went to town and brought a note from Gen. Cabell saying the suit had been decided in Maj. R.'s favor.

Dec. 30, 1866

I thought of going to Church today. Jimmie had the mules put on the ambulance. It was so cold and I have a pain in my shoulder that I gave it out. Emily got dinner. Caroline had the soap weighed and she had made 44 lbs. Jimmie went to Church.

Dec. 31, 1866

Shingo came out to get some dishes. Tomorrow is the General's birthday. Tom killed pig for the occasion. Finished Minnie's dress, made some egg nog, settled with Caroline.

Jan. 4, 1867

Maj. R. bought two tickets for the Tableau. Jimmie and I went. I enjoyed the tableau and music very much. The first tableau I ever saw, very elegant supper. I think they must have made considerable, the house was crowded. I stayed all night with Shingo.

Jan. 5, 1867

Shingo and I went down town. I got Lidy a calico jacket, two flannel shirts, a course and fine tooth comb.

Jan. 6, 1867

Little Katie Cabell's 6th birthday, she was born at Ft. Cobb. The many, many changes since then.

Jan. 11, 1867

Jimmie brought a letter to Kate from Capt. C. It had been written three months ago—is strange where letters remain so long—it is a beautiful letter, so full of affection and confidences—he little thought, poor fellow, of the sad termination of all his hopes. Laura Rector³⁴ and Mrs. Gardner called—I am suffering very much with neuralgia in my head.

Jan. 15, 1867

Spent most of the morning in looking for a receipt for Maj. R. Darned Maj. R.'s socks. Will this trouble never cease. Maj. R.

brought from town a package for Kate from Capt. C. It was her cup, and letters he was returning. How miserable this affair has made us.

Jan. 16, 1867

The last link is broken between Capt. C. and Kate. I read her letters and burned them. Oh Kate, you have acted with duplicity, or deceived your own heart. Could I have believed it. There has been a grievous wrong somewhere—who is to blame—I wrote to Capt. C. today. God bless him, and protect him for he has been more sinned against than sinning.

Jan. 21, 1867

Caroline and Burrell, Emily and Iseral,³⁵ left today—no one left but Dosie but I think we will get along very well without them. Got a letter from Sue—Kate has gone to the convent to school—God bless and make her truthful, sincere, and happy. My noble boy, the pride of his mother's heart, could have been 21 years old today, if it had pleased God for him to live, but he has gone far from care and suffering.

Jan. 26, 1867

Very cold. I sent Mrs. Sandels ten buffalo tongues.

Jan. 28, 1867

Maj. R. went to town this morning, he bought flannel for drawers for Mr. Burnton, pantaloons for Lidy and George, a dress for Dosey. Lily came to see Dosey—a perfect nuisance. A white man came to hire and stayed all night, but Maj. R. had hired two Negro men.

Jan. 30, 1867

Visitors today, an unusual occurrence this morning—Mrs. Sandels³⁶ and children, Mrs. Wheeler,³⁷ Miss Wilcos called. This afternoon Mr. Col. Ord U.S.A. and two daughters, Mrs. Watson called. Maj. R. brought me two bottles of cologne.

Feb. 3, 1867

Another beautiful day—Jimmie and I went to church, rode on horseback. Lidy went and rode his pony. Mr. Sandels preached a heart-searching sermon from the text 19 Psalms, 12th verse. I took dinner with Shingo.

Feb. 5, 1867

A boy came to get some turnips, brought a dog with him that killed one of my turkeys. Old Red had calf.

Feb. 6 1867

Went to town to go to church, but there was not any. Shingo and I went visiting. We went into Garrison, called on Mrs. Ord, I bought some black buttons for my dress. We had turkey for supper. It was very fat and very tough.

Feb. 11, 1867

It is now late at night and Maj. R. has not returned from town. I fear he has got in to bad company. It is strange that an old man will allow himself to be duped, for there is a set who think he has a little money. They will use every means to get it from him.

Feb. 12, 1867

Maj. R. stayed all night in town. I felt very uneasy. I scarcely slept any. He did not return until the afternoon. I did not ask him where he had been. It was enough for me to know that he had been dissipating. Oh, My God, it is bad enough in the young, but to see an old man, a grandfather, setting up all night dissipating is worse than the example.

³² William Lewis Cabell, Catherine's son-in-law, husband of Shingo. Cabell was a General in the Confederate Army.

³³ Probably refers to Catherine's brother, Turner DuVal.

³⁴ Wife of Francis Armstrong Rector, Major Rector's nephew.

³⁵ Former slaves of the Rector family.

³⁶ The wife of Rev. John Sandels, Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Fort Smith. See THE JOURNAL'S article on St. John's elsewhere in this issue.

³⁷ The wife of John F. Wheeler who brought the first printing press to Fort Smith in 1847.

Feb. 13, 1867

Jimmie went this morning for a tree to set out in the front yard. I wonder if Kate is thinking of when and how she spent this night one year ago. Poor Anna Adams, she little thought what she would suffer, to lose Mother and Brother, she is truly an orphan and poor Kate she has had troubles too. Finished reading Ellen Middleton's very interesting book with a good moral. Bennie came out and stayed all day. Poor little Lidy has a bad cough. Jimmie is charming us with his delightful singing. Poor boy, he is happy.

Feb. 14, 1867

St. Valentine's Day—this day one year ago Kate and Whyne Flowrence came home. It was very cold, and poor Mrs. Adams, Kate and Anna had amused themselves writing Valentines—poor children how happy they were then.

Feb. 16, 1867

Jimmie went to town in the ambulance. I would have gone in with him but Lidy was not well and I wanted to write to Kate. Jimmie brought out 5 gallons of lamp oil. I want to see how long it will last.

Feb. 18, 1867

Maj. R. went with Mr. Collins to survey the land he sold him. The Quarter Master sent out for the oats Jimmie sold him.

Feb. 20, 1867

Cleared off. Maj. R. went to town. Elias came home with him to dinner. Maj. R. has been expecting to leave every day—it does appear so hard that I can not go with him.

Feb. 22, 1867

Do not feel well today. Caroline came over yesterday and washed Maj. R.'s shirts. Dosie had chill. I cannot help feeling hurt that Shinto does not come and stay out here and let me go with Maj. R. Finished Jimmie's shirt.

Feb. 23, 1867

Maj. R. and Jimmie went to town. The boat had come. They returned for Maj. R.'s trunk. I do feel so disappointed that I could not go with Major Rector.³⁸ I know that it would do me so much good to take a trip, but no one appears to think of my comfort, happiness, or pleasure—we may raise children, deny ourselves every comfort for their pleasure. When they might add to the comfort of their parents they will not do it. Oh, the selfishness of this world.

Feb. 25, 1867

Made George two aprons to wash dishes in. I have to pray constantly to keep from giving up to dispondancy.

Feb. 27, 1867

Jimmie and I played ucru tonight.

Feb. 28, 1867

Went to town. Shingo and I went down to Laura Rector's and I bought her carpet. I called Mrs. Lanigan's, Mrs. Brooks, and called on Mrs. Gordon, the bride. Came home by Col. Fishback's. Received a letter from Kate. I was so proud to hear that she had received the silver medal for good lessons.

Mar. 1, 1867

Came in like a lion—woods all on fire. Jimmie and Mr. Williamson have worked themselves nearly down keeping the fire from the fence. Caroline came over to wash, but had to go home on account of the fire.

Mar. 2, 1867

Jimmie took the wagon to town for a barrel of flour and meal. Brought out the brussels carpet Maj. Rector bought from Laura Rector. Received a letter from Col. Brown³⁹ in reference to Kate's expenses at school.

Mar. 3, 1867

I felt so disappointed that I could not go to church. After dinner Jimmie went to town, brought me a letter from Susan⁴⁰ written from Cairo. She is on her way to New Orleans. If I had gone how pleasant it would have been to have met her. I hope Maj. R. may.

Mar. 4, 1867

The deepest snow we have had this year, snowed nearly all day. I cut out Lidy two jackets and made one. Bennie and Lidy have been busy with their traps.

March 9, 1867

Jimmie went in town for the plough and mail. Florence Carroll came to borrow a side saddle—finished Minnie's drawers.

Mar. 13, 1867

Still very cold. Paid Iseral all we owed him. Jimmie had a chill. Elias came out and stayed all night. Had an amusing time with the spirits moving the table. The first thing of that kind I ever saw.

Mar. 14, 1867

Still cold. Elias went in this morning. Elias sent out for Dora, dear little Anna wanted to stay—she is a very sweet and interesting child. Commenced reading the *History of the Third Louisiana Infantry* by Maj. Tunnard.

Mar. 16, 1867

Snowing. Jimmie went hunting, killed one grouse, two ducks and Susy made a pound cake.

Mar. 19, 1867

Jimmie went to town after dinner, brought a letter for his Pa from Mr. Tucker (for a dun). I had no idea that he owed that much money. Old Mrs. Weatherby came to buy pigs and chickens. She came to a goat's house for wool.

Mar. 20, 1867

Very busy this morning helping clean up. George is so trifling, keeps me scolding him. Read over my old journal today—how many bad changes have been since that was written.

Mar. 22, 1867

Wrote a letter to Kate this afternoon. Emily and her children came over. I gave her Minnie's shimmie to finish. Lidy and I went up to the grave yard—we planted a rose on dear John's grave. Dear little Willie's grave is all mashed down, notwithstanding some flowers are coming up. Gen. Cabell has returned from New Orleans—he brought me a letter from Maj. Rector and he was going to St. Louis.

Mar. 27, 1867

Jimmie and Lidy and I went to town. Gen. Cabell has brought some beautiful goods—I got a good many things.

Apr. 9, 1867

Iseral came over this morning and opened the furniture—all of it is so pretty. The carpet-rug and curtains are magnificent, I am so well pleased with all Maj. R. got. Iseral scoured the paint and floor and washed the windows in the parlor—tomorrow he will put down the carpet. Another day gone and Maj. R. not returned.

Apr. 10, 1867

Iseral put down the carpet in the parlour, it is beautiful. The room looks very nice with the new furniture.

³⁸ Major Rector went to New Orleans and then to St. Louis.

³⁹ Catherine's brother-in-law, Virginia's husband. He was later Assistant Paymaster General of the U.S.A.

⁴⁰ Catherine's sister, Susan. She married Maj. F. M. Page, U. S. Army. He was killed in 1860 and buried in the Rector family plot.

Apr. 11, 1867

Heard a boat this morning—was just starting Joe in with a horse when Major Rector came. He is very unwell, has a dreadful cough. All the things he brought me and the children are very pretty. He says Kate's health is not good. Hearing that mars all the pleasure I have in receiving so many pretty things. Gen. Cabell and Shingo and the children came out in the evening and Elias called. Iseral put down the carpet in the front room, fixed as a nice bedroom with a new bedsted, bureau and stand.

Apr. 13, 1867

Maj. R. no better. I wrote Kate today and a note to Laura Rector, returning the carpet I got from her. It is entirely too small for any of my rooms. I expect she will be mad about it but I can not help it.

Apr. 14, 1867

Received a very insulting note from Laura Rector in regard to the carpet. I sent her one hundred dollars, the price, and don't want to have anything to do with her.

Apr. 18, 1867

Maj. R. some better. Gen. C. sent out a venison, ham and a Brant.

Apr. 19, 1867

Put down the carpet in my room. Maj. R. coughed very much last night and is not so well today. Gen C., Shingo, and Mr. John Gardner came out in the afternoon.

April 20, 1867

Gen. C. sent out a large turkey, took all day to cook it.

Apr. 21, 1867

Easter Sunday...did not go to church. Have no way of going. Maj. R. is better. The cold turkey was very nice and we all enjoyed it for dinner.

Apr. 22, 1867

Susy is to be Queen of May. Cut out a new Swiss dress for her.

Apr. 23, 1867

Received a letter from Col. Brown. He is ordered to New York. I feel so disappointed I can not go to St. Louis to see them before they leave.

Apr. 24, 1867

Jimmie went to town this afternoon. Brought out a keg of whiskey for Burnton, 1 gal. of good whiskey, one do. of vinegar, one do. of molasses.

Apr. 27, 1867

Wrote a letter to Col. Brown for Maj. R. I do feel so sorry I can not go and see Sissy⁴¹ before she leaves for New York. Nothing but extreme selfishness prevented me from going when Maj. R. went—now he has not the money. Gen. Stone came out this afternoon.

Apr. 30, 1867

Received a long letter from Kate. I fear her health is worse than we think. I pray God that He may restore her to health. Elias came out to see Maj. R. I showed him Kate's letter and he said he would write a prescription and send it to her.

May 1, 1867

Susy was May Queen. She looked beautiful and did so well. All the children looked beautiful, had nice table set with plenty of refreshments. Had Reed's band and altogether it was a very pretty and pleasant scene.

May 14, 1867

Major King came out in his buggy. Lidy and myself went in the buggy with Maj. King to Van Buren. Maj. Rector went on horseback. Took dinner with Mary W.⁴² As we returned, called to see Mary Gatlin.⁴³ I got Mrs. Wright to wash for me, greatly to Caroline's annoyance.

May 18, 1867

Wrote a long letter to Sue. Jimmie went to town. Maj. R. and all of us are so troubled about Mr. Cabell. He is ruined in business and involved Maj. R. What is to become of us I do not know.

May 21, 1867

I wrote a letter to my darling Kate. Each day I miss her more. How lonely and sad I feel sometimes without her. I was very busy cleaning upstairs and putting things away—in folding and putting away my dear John's coat. What a crowd of recollections rushed upon my mind. Oh, my noble boy. Mrs. P. Y. Brooks was buried today. She has been a great sufferer. Her death released her from pain to bliss. Maj. R. went to the funeral. Jimmie is not well and is discouraged about his crop. The weather continues cold. I commenced reading the New Testament.

May 27, 1867

Mr. Hendrick came out and put up the cornice to the windows. I cut out the curtains, commenced making them. Jimmie went to town for the mail. I commenced reading one of the books Mrs. Sandles sent me.

May 28, 1867

Mr. Hendrick finished today. Put up the curtains and cornice in the parlour. They look so nice. Maj. R. paid Mr. Hendrick in full 24 dollars.

May 29, 1867

Went in to town. Found Shingo very sick, Benny much better. Went to Gen. C's store and got a good many things—all Maj. R. will realize out of several thousand dollars. Received a letter from Kate. Maj. Brown's order is countermanded. He will not go to New York.

June 3, 1867

Everything went wrong. Dosy almost refused to do anything. Emily came over and I got her to help me fix the paper on the front door window and clean up my room. In the afternoon I fixed my firescreens. Maj. R. in a very ill humor...He will never forget one thing I reproach myself for, for it was one of the great sins of my life.

June 7, 1867

Went to church, from there I went with Julie Wilcox⁴⁴ to see Mrs. Henry Myer. Called to see Mrs. Spring, but she was asleep. I did not disturb her. Took dinner at Shingo's. Called to see Mrs. Sandels, went down to Dora's. We came home directly after dinner. Maj. R. and myself went over to Col. Fishbacks in the evening. While we were there Col. Jones and Major Lugenbeal already dressed. Young Mrs. Fishback had on a flaming red dress. She is not very interesting nor pretty.

June 8, 1867

Dosy left this morning. Mrs. Wright is cooking for me.

June 9, 1867

Gen. Gatlin⁴⁵ Gen Cabell, Shingo, and the children spent the day with us. Susy in returning from Church was thrown from her pony, but not hurt. I shall not let her go alone again.

⁴¹ Catherine Rector's sister Virginia, wife of Col. Brown. Elsewhere in this Diary, Catherine calls him Maj. Brown.

⁴² Mary A. Rector Walker, niece of Major Rector.

⁴³ Wife of R. C. Gatlin, who lived at what is now the end of North 6th St., where Speer Hardware Co. is now located.

⁴⁴ Wife of Granville Wilcox, prominent Van Buren attorney.

⁴⁵ R. C. Gatlin

June 10, 1867

I had nearly forgot that this was dear Willie's birthday. He would have been 28 years old today if he had lived. "The Lord gave, and the Lord Taketh away, Blessed be the name of the Lord." So busy all day today. Mrs. Wright scoured up the kitchen, dining room and porch. Dosy went away and left everything so dirty. The poor people are coming in and getting corn. Jimmie has sold 88 dollars worth today. This afternoon Ben Atherson and his wife called to get vegetables.

June 18, 1867

I hired a woman to pick cherries. Gave her five cents a lb. for picking which was a big price for they weigh heavy—5 cents a quart would have been plenty. Wrote to dear sister. Maj. R. and myself went into town this afternoon. Susie was baptised in the Catholic Church this afternoon.

June 24, 1867

Cut out Lidy a jacket, put away my winter dresses. In the afternoon Col. Gordon called. He is from Washington City and has something to do with the Indian Department.

June 28, 1867

Whyne Flowerence came home with Maj. R. We had been to dinner but I set something out for them. I received a letter from Susan. School out at the Convent. Susy and Minnie home for two months vacation.

June 29, 1867

Susy went to the dentist.

June 30, 1867

Oh, miserable day is all I can say. Why is it I am so troubled. I can not record all that has occurred this day. Susy will remember it all her *life long I hope*. My sins must be many that I am so *tortured*.

July 1, 1867

Maj. R. and Lidy went to town, came home to dinner. I hired a girl, Matilda Sexton, at five dollars per month.

July 2, 1867

I do not think my hired girl will amount to much. Emily came over and made a new bolster and pillows and emptied them for me.

July 4, 1867

My new hired girl is rather a nuisance, has body lice on her. Quite an excitement on the subject today. She has no shimmies. I gave her one of mine to put on. Cut her out two new ones. Cut Minnie a dress and sent it to Emily to make.

July 6, 1867

Tilly left today. Glad to get clear of her.

July 10, 1867

Late in the afternoon Maj. R. and myself took the children in to Shingo's to the fair. The children stayed all night. Maj. R. and myself stayed until after tea. Was a beautiful starlight night.

July 11, 1867

The children came home with lseral in the wagon. They were delighted with the fair. I was very unwell all day. Dr. and Mrs. Main and Lilly called in the evening. Got a sack of salt.

July 15, 1867

Maj. R. went to town. Came home in an ill humor. Gen. Cabell has ruined him. Poor Shingo. I feel so sorry for her. Minnie wrote a letter to Kate. The first she has ever written.

July 17, 1867

Mrs. Wright sick. Caroline cooked today. It is so different from Mrs. wrights that I have made myself sick eating. Old Mr. Tibbets from Polk County called here and wanted a lot to pen his cattle in at night. Jimmie let him put them in the horses lot. He was very kind to Jimmie once when he stopped at his house. The old man is moving to Kansas.

July 24, 1867

Maj. R. went to town this morning. Heard there was one case of cholera in town. Finished Sussy's dress. Received a letter from Kate with her likeness—I think they are excellent.

Aug. 2, 1867

Jimmie went riding with Lula Sandels. Stayed in town until after supper.

August 3, 1867

I received a letter from Sissie and the likeness of her dear little Kirby taken after his death, and the likeness of little Susie sent to Lidy.

August 16, 1867

Mr. King called on way to Van Buren for me to sign a deed. Tomorrow is Jimmie's birthday. I made him a jelly cake. Mr. T. Y. Brooks and Gen. Cabell were here to dinner. Came out with Maj. R. in the wagon. He took them home in the evening.

Aug. 17, 1867

Jimmie's 19th birthday. May God bless him, and grant him long life.

Aug. 18, 1867

I went to the Catholic Church to see it dedicated and consecrated by Bishop Fitzgerald. There were a number of persons present. In the afternoon was confirmation. Susy and Shingo were confirmed.

Aug. 23, 1867

I received a letter from Sue yesterday and answered it yesterday and enclosed one hundred dollars for Kate. I went in to see Shingo. I do wish she were through her confinement.

Aug. 24, 1867

Made some plum and pear preserves. Received a letter from Kate. I fear she is homesick. She was to stay at her Aunt Sue's until her uncle returns.

Aug.31, 1867

Had the storeroom whitewashed and cleaned up. Made some peach preserves. The whole house is torn to pieces whitewashing.

Sept.4, 1867

This morning I committed an error that I am sincerely sorry for. I hope and pray that I may never be guilty of the same act again. God have mercy on me.

Sept. 9, 1867

I was sent for soon this morning to go to Shingo. Her baby was born before I got there. She has a fine boy. I stayed the night with her.

Sept. 10, 1867

Maj. R. came for me to come home. Mr. T. Y. Brooks came home with him yesterday to stay a few days. Received a letter from Sue with Kate's account. It is so large it frightens me.

Sept. 11, 1867

Lillie frightened us all so this morning. She was taken very sudden with cramp colic. We thought it might be cholera. Maj. King and Ellen came out yesterday and helped me hang up the portraits. Col. Fishback called.

September 16, 1867

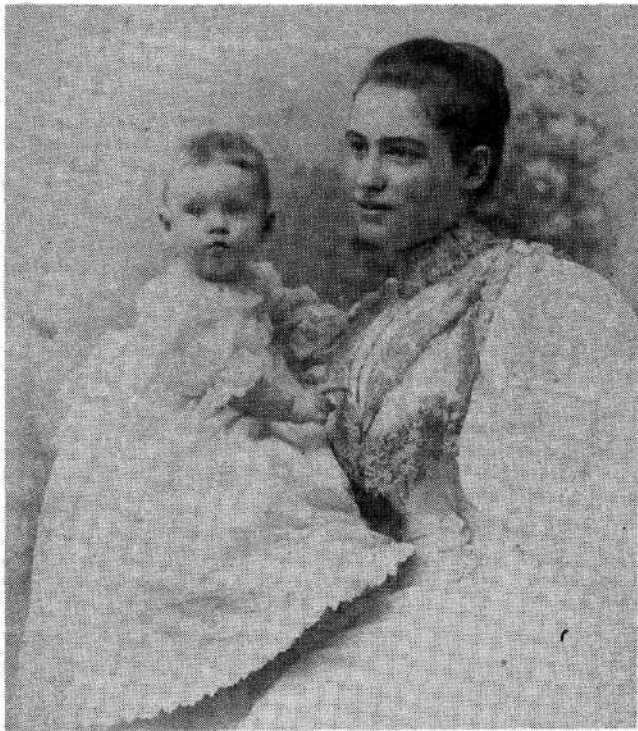
Commenced today to have two meals a day. Maj. R. went to town, sold his goods. I think he made another bad sale. I fear the man who bought them is not reliable. Oh, dear Kate, how I wish you were at home.

Sept. 28, 1867

How many things have transpired since I last wrote in the journal. Shingo's darling little baby has died. She has been out home and stayed a week and gone home—dear, dear Shingo, her cup of sorrow is full. This is Maj. R.'s 65th birthday. Brother Elias, Mr. King, and Mr. Brooks took dinner with us. A man and his two sons came here and wanted to stay a few days but we could not take them. They stayed all night. The man was sick and looked miserable.

Oct. 4, 1867

Mr. and Mrs. Luce and Forester came out and stayed all night.



Margret Luce Rector and daughter Margret, 1889. Margret was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Luce and married Lidy Rector. Picture Courtesy Mr. John Luce.

Oct. 5, 1867

Col. Dorn and his two sons came and stayed all night. Sallie expects to leave, but I could not hire anyone else, so I had to raise her wages to \$18.10 per month which is an exorbitant price for all she does.

Oct. 12, 1867

I took all the children and went to town to have their likeness taken. Lidy got so nervous he could not stand still to have his taken in the morning. I called to see Mrs. Sutton and Bill Sanders, and called also at Miss Tynmons.

Oct. 13, 1867

Jimmie, Minnie and I went to church. Mr. Sandels preached one of the best sermons I ever heard him preach. In the evening Col. Jones and Col. Lugenbeal called. Col. J. is going away and Col. L. takes command at the post.

Oct. 19, 1867

Susy stayed all night at Sister's. Lidy went to town. Minnie and I were alone all day. The dear little thing rubbed up the hearths and then helped me make cake.

Oct. 20, 1867

Caroline came over to cook the pig for dinner. Jimmie, Lidy and myself went to Church. Bennie and Lidy and little Jeff Davis came out on their ponys.

Oct. 21, 1867

Maj. R. went to town. Minnie and Lidy went to the circus.

Oct. 26, 1867

I wrote and subscribed for the *Lady Book and Children's Hour*.

Oct. 29, 1867

Emily came over to help me make the children's cloaks. Maj. R. sold the little spring wagon. I was so sorry that he did not exchange with Mr. Garnder for a carriage that would have suited me and been a great comfort to me. I will not record what I felt on the subject or felt at the time.

Oct. 30, 1867

Wrote a long letter to Kate. Sent her \$10 and Bennie's likeness.

Nov. 1, 1867

Dear Minnie's birthday. Susy went to church. I am suffering intensely with headache. Went to bed directly after supper. Took blue moss. Jimmie went to The Calico Ball.

Nov. 2, 1867

Made some beef-feet jelly. Jimmie came home this morning. They had a fuss at the ball. The society of Fort Smith is disgraceful. Poor little Lidy was thrown from his pony. We thought his arm was broken, sent for the Dr., but it was only very sprained.

Nov. 10, 1867

Jimmie and I went to Church. I rode on horseback. Took lunch at Shingo's, came home to dinner. Maj. R. was provoked we stayed so long. Unreasonable man. Harvey got an excellent dinner.

Nov. 11, 1867

This morning when Harvey came in to make the fire he told us of a woman who wanted to hire. We sent in for her immediately. I think she will do. Anyhow better than doing all my own work.

Nov. 16, 1867

I went to town. Shingo and I went shopping. In returning from town, we overtook a sick woman and took her to the hospital.

Nov. 21, 1867

Went to town and had two teeth plugged. Jimmie went to Mrs. Wheeler's to the reading club tonight.

Nov. 25, 1867

Killed a very fat beef, sent Shingo half.

Nov. 26, 1867

Jimmie and Susy received invitations to Lily Main's⁴⁶ birthday party. I sent Mrs. Sandels a nice roast of beef and a stake. Jimmie took it and some pop corn.

Nov. 28, 1867

Killed a beef. Thursday night a woman and man stayed all night—it was raining in torrents and we could not refuse them.

Nov. 29, 1867

Jimmie went to the tableaux. We would have all went but it was too cold.

Nov. 30, 1867

This day one year ago dear Kate left for school. It appears like a long long time.

Dec. 17, 1867

Killed hogs. Shingo came out to help me with the children's dresses. Caroline Brawley, the crazy woman, came running here as crazy as a loon, poor thing. How sorry I do feel for her. It is a shame that there is no lunatic asylum in the state.

Mar. 31, 1868

Wrote to Kate and sent her a check for \$1000 dollars.

Apr. 8, 1868

Jimmie killed a large deer. Ran it with his hounds. He shot it off his horse, Joe.

Apr. 12, 1868

Easter Sunday. The church was beautifully decorated with flowers. Just as Mr. Sandels finished reading the service, he fainted. He is not very strong and has over-exerted himself.

Apr. 13, 1868

Had my white turkey hen killed for dinner tomorrow. I did hate to do it. I m afraid the Bishop will not get here to dinner.

Apr. 14, 1868

The Bishop did not come, of course. I did not cook the turkey. Mrs. Allen has given me notice that she is going to leave. If I had anyone to supply her place, I should not regret it. She has such an unhappy disposition.

Apr. 15, 1868

A very cold, rainy, disagreeable day. Jimmie went to town. Maj. R. sent Gov. Stone a piece of corn beef. Cooked tom after Jimmie left. Mrs. Sandels sent me a note saying that the Bishop had returned, that there would be services at the church at eleven o'clock and the Bishop was sorry that he could not have come yesterday and dined with us. When Jimmie came from town he said the Bishop and P. Y. Brooks would be out to dinner. They came and I had the turkey. The ladies of the church gave the Bishop a reception at Mrs. Sandels this evening. I sent them some canned fruit.

Apr. 16, 1868

Settled with Mrs. Allen who is going to leave. I got my *one hundred dollar* carpet nearly ruined by the roof leaking or the gutters getting full of leaves.

Apr. 23, 1868

Jimmie, Shingo and myself went to town. Very hot today. We went shopping. I got Susy a dress, myself and Shingo a pair of ear rings, Jimmie a pair of sleeve buttons, myself, Susy, Minnie and Lidy a pair of gloves. Called at Mrs. Spring's. We went to Brother

Ben's office and Maj. R. sent us up some ale and ice. When we got back to Shingo's, found Bennie very sick. Came home from school with a chill. I did not get out but went to Mr. Fishbacks and made a call. When I returned, Shingo had a cup of coffee for me. Mrs. Allen left this morning soon after I did. She is an ungrateful woman.

Apr. 24, 1868

Rained very hard all day. Mr. P. Y. Brooks came out, notwithstanding the rain, to eat hog jole and spinage. I strung Minnie's coral beads.

May 5, 1868

Went over to Shingo's, Jimmie went into town. Brought me a letter from Kate, two letters for Maj. R., one from Hanson Rose, the other from one of our old servants in Texas. He wants to return. Got a hundred weight of flour.

May 11, 1868

Rained very hard nearly all day. I commenced whitewashing upstairs. Maggie wanted to leave, but I would not let her go as I needed her services more now than I did before and her month was not out and I did not intend to be trifled with. How little principal there is. Susy lost her breastpin going to school. I had severe pain in my hip. Had to have it rubbed with turpentine.

May 12, 1868

Jimmie went to town and brought Stinner out to fix the clock. Isral brought home a fish, so we had fish for supper, a real treat. I am in despair about my chickens, so many of them are sick.

May 13, 1868

Very cool, still whitewashing. Jimmie, Will Seymour and Mr. Dean went hunting. Came back and I had dinner set for them. Jimmie went in to town and came home at bedtime. Brought me a letter from Kate. Her Pa had arrived at St. Louis. She wrote that Aunt Sissie would probably come home with them.

May 14, 1868

Still whitewashing. All in dirt and confusion. Jimmie went to a party at Col. Fishbacks.

May 15, 1868

Jimmie came home this morning just at daylight. Sat up all night at the party. Went to bed and slept until dinner. Jimmie went to town this evening, brought me a letter from Maj. Rector at St. Louis. He says my darling Kate looks dreadfully bad. He fears that her health is very bad. He regrets that he did not go for her sooner. I hope and pray that when she returns home that she may regain her health and God have mercy upon me.

May 16, 1868

Finished whitewashing the house in the inside. They all worked hard to get it done.

May 17, 1868

Jimmie, Susy and Minnie went to Church. Maggy went to town in the wagon with them. Susy went to see about hiring a woman for me, and Jimmie left her. Minnie went back on the pony for her. This thing of having to look out every month for a new servant is a great annoyance.

May 18, 1868

Tired to death cleaning up. A big house may be comfortable but terrible to keep clean. Jimmie brought us a nice mess of strawberries from Mr. Wilkens.

⁴⁶ Lily Main, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. J.H.T. Main.

May 20, 1868
Jimmie went to town and found the concert people had come from the Rock and they had the concert last night, but are going to have another tonight.

May 21, 1868
Rained so last night that Jimmie did not go to the concert. I received a letter from Sissie. I am so disappointed she is not coming home with Maj. R. and Kate. They left St. Louis on the 16th.

May 22, 1868
Finished cleaning up. Put paper to the windows round the door upstairs.

May 23, 1868
Bruse came out and put up the gates. I do not like the one at the front yard. Jimmie went to go riding with Miss Riply, but she had gone down with Miss Rowans. We thought sure Maj. R. and Kate would be home. We heard a boat and was so disappointed that they were not on it.

May 24, 1868
Another day and Maj. R. and Kate not come. Hope deferred maketh the heart sick. Jimmie and I went to Church but Mr. Sandels was sick.

Aug. 17, 1868
Jimmie's birthday. 20 years old. How many sad memories and blessings since his birth. I wrote to Sue and sent her \$20 to pay a bill for Kate's music teacher on Saturday the 15th.

Sept. 5, 1868
Took Susy to the Convent to board.

Sept. 13, 1868
Sunday, did not go to church. Felt very badly out of spirits. It would have been better for me, I expect, if I had gone. In the afternoon I went to the Convent to see Sue. Poor child looked rather sad. Kate, Jimmie, Minnie and Lidy went to church in the morning. Kate stayed with Ora Ripley.

Apr. 11, 1869
Kate stayed all night last night with her sister. Major Rector went in town this morning in Mr. Johnson's⁴⁷ buggy. I sent Jimmie's trunk in. Mr. Tilkeness will send it down to Charleston for him. Shingo came over. A dog killed her turkey hen. Will Seymour came out to go riding with Kate, but she did not go.

Apr. 14, 1869
Mr. Johnson and Maj. Rector went to Van Buren. Kate and myself received letters from Jimmie. Maj. R. got 1 lb. of tea in Van Buren.

Apr. 18, 1869
Very cloudy and sultry. Will I ever get to go to church again. Our prospects are gloomy. It is hard to come down to poverty.

Apr. 20, 1869
Commenced planting corn in the prairie field. Shingo came over to dinner. Mrs. Ward, Miss Sophia, Mr. Ed Fleming, Lieut. Thomson and Lieut. Fleming called. Will Seymour was here this afternoon, put his horse in the yard to eat grass.

Apr. 22, 1869
Maj. R. did not go to town. Hired a Negro woman, Jane. Tom Bowlegs brought her out. Came got our cart and brought her things out.

Apr. 23, 1869
....Major R. returned to dinner. I finished my gingham dress. Will Seymour and Bill Sanders came out for Kate to go to a party in the Garrison. Her pa would not let her go. I felt so sorry for her. She was so disappointed. Susy came home this evening. She is not looking well. Finished planting corn except the new field.

Apr. 24, 1869
We had a turkey for dinner. Mrs. Queensberry and Mrs. Carr called. The turkey hen hatched 12 young turkeys. All my old hens are dying. Planted Hungarian grass, a little slip next to the fence.

Apr. 28, 1869
Went to town early this morning. Called at Mr. Sandels to see about Minnie and Lidy going to school. I send them Monday. Maj. R. treated me to soda water. We went over into the Garrison to see Kate Ayers. Kate went to the dressmaker and the dentist. Fannie and Kate went to Dyerson to have their pictures taken. I got a bonnet from the sewing society for Minnie. I called at Mrs. Kennedy's.

Apr. 30, 1869
Hemmed a handkerchief for Jimmie and 2 for Maj. R. Had a wild turkey for dinner. Shingo sent me a pork steak. Had it for supper.

May 1, 1869
Sent 2 bushels of corn to the mill. Filled Mr. Burntons jug with whiskey.

May 2, 1869
I sent Lidy with Sue's clean dresses to her and a note to Kate enclosing 75¢ to Dora to give to Mrs. Julia Wilcox for Minnie's sunbonnet.

May 3, 1869
Minnie and Lidy started to school to Mr. Sandels this morning. The school was invited to a picnic and they went. Cut out Sue's dress, toasted coffee, 6 cups.

May 4, 1869
Kate has lost my purse. \$1.75 in it. I am very sorry to loose the purse. It was a very handsome one. Shingo gave it to me several years ago.

May 5, 1869
Maj. went to town, bought a new coconut dipper.

May 6, 1869
Another day gone and Kate still in town. She forgets she has an old Mother at home all alone. I cannot imagine why I do not hear from Jimmie.

May 7, 1869
Maj. R. went to town. Iseral took some bacon to town, left it at Bickle's⁴⁸ for sale. After dinner Shingo and Johnny came over. Gen. Bonneville, Mr. Campbell, Dr. Baily called. Maj. R. got two gallons of wine. Susy sent me two beautiful lampmatts. Maj. R. got me a nice pair of slippers.

May 17, 1869
I was taken very sick in the night—had to send for the Doctor. Shingo came over and stayed all day with me.

May 21, 1869
Very cold and cloudy. I wrote to Sue Page and for the Missouri Republican.

May 22, 1869
A beautiful day. There is a picnic in the grove. Minnie and Lidy went. I gathered a quantity of strawberrys. I was very unwell all night. Had fever. I went to town with the wagon. I got a barrel of flour, 5 gallons of coal oil, and 2 gallons of molasses.

⁴⁷ This probably refers to Charles B. Johnson who married Margaret A. Rector, Major Rector's niece.

⁴⁸ Beckel's is the correct spelling.

May 24, 1869

Kate and myself spent all day out gathering strawberries to send up town. Iseral took them and brought them all back. Could not sell them.

May 25, 1869

On this day, 5th anniversary of dear John's death. I have not been to his grave for a long time. I feel as if I could not go.

May 26, 1869

Dr. and Mrs. Spring, Fannie⁴⁹ and Mrs. Seymour called.

May 27, 1869

Cleaned up one room upstairs. Kate turned Minnie's and Susie's hats. I cut out Mr. Burnton 3 shirts and sent them to Emily. to make.

May 28, 1869

Had peas and chicken for dinner. Thought Jimmie would get home to dinner. He came while we were at supper. He looks so badly. Will Seymour came out for Kate and took her to a party at Mrs. Armstrongs. Shingo and the Gen. came over after tea.

May 29, 1869

Maj. R. and Jimmie went to town. Came home to dinner. Said he had bought Mrs. Slassim's⁵⁰ carriage. Jimmie went in for it and brought it out. I wish I had my \$500.00 and Mrs. S. had her carriage. The top is broken.

May 30, 1869

Went to church in my new carriage. Mr. Pettigrew, Mrs. Spenser, and Gen. Cabell were here to dinner.

May 31, 1869

Had a storm party at Shingos. Major Meyers and Mrs. Meyers called. Mrs. M. anxious to get back to Arkansas. I did not go over to Shingos to the party but everyone enjoyed it.

June 1, 1869

They kept the party up pretty late—I went over to Shingo's. Kate and I came back together in the little wagon. Jimmie slept until dinner. Jimmie went in to town to bring the carriage out. It was mended. Gen. Cabell brought it out. Jimmie went riding with Fannie. Will Seymour came home with him and stayed all night. Maj. R. bought me a large glass bowl. Shingo a glass set. Maj. R. sold some land today.

June 2, 1869

Jimmie left this morning for Charleston. I would like for him to have stayed longer, but I was gratified that he wanted to return to school.

June 3, 1869

Maj. R. and myself went to town to sign a deed. We returned to dinner, Shingo's birthday.

June 5, 1869

Maj. R. and myself went to town. I went round returning calls. Dora and Mr. Collins called. Minnie had some little girls spending the day. Maj. R. was in a terrible bad humor when he came home.

June 6, 1869

I took blue moss last night. I did not go to church. Lidy went to Sunday school. Minnie stayed at home with me.

June 7, 1869

Kate still in town. Maj. R. did not go in today. Very cool, rained. Cut out George two pairs of pantaloons, and Mr. Burnton two flannel shirts. Made one.

The diary ends rather abruptly. As luck would have it, there are several items about the family, in the 1878 New Era pages presented elsewhere in The Journal. Items in Jan. 9, Jan. 16, and Apr. 3, 1878 are telling about Kate and her husband. She married Maj. Thibaut of the Union Army, who was the last commanding officer at the fort. On Feb. 27, 1878, Catherine's sister Virginia who is mentioned in the diary as Sissie, comes back to Fort Smith to die. The following week, The New Era recorded her death. Elias Rector died in Fort Smith Nov. 22, 1878.

The Fort Smith Historical Society owes a debt of gratitude to Mrs. Charles Stuart, great-granddaughter of Catherine and Elias Rector for her transcription from the original diary, and the subsequent loan of the transcription from Fado Cravens.

OLD FOLKS AND FACTS¹

By Phebe Parke

A writer for the Fort Smith Southwest American in the 1930's

While riding down Garrison Avenue a few days ago with his nephew, Judge R. P. Strozier, Mr. R. H. Patton of near Huntington, when he viewed the beautiful scene with the paved street remarked, "Oh, what a contrast to the road that I knew 60 or 70 years ago." Mr. Patton has passed his eighty-ninth birthday and has lived at Wicherville, Huntington and this community for 80 years and has seen the development of the country.

An incident of long ago on Garrison Avenue was recalled to his mind. He was driving on Garrison Avenue with two bales of cotton on his way to sell them at Lanigan and Sutton's. The street was very muddy. While trying to shun a mud hole on the right, his left hind wheel went down in the mud to the hub and while his team put forth every effort, it could not pull out the wagon. Here he was in a hog hole and no one to help. Some lads were standing on the sidewalk watching him but offered no assistance.

Finally a nice looking young man came up and said to the boys: "Let's help that poor fellow out of his trouble." There is too much mud," replied one of the boys. Then the young man said, "Darn the mud!" and he waded out into the mud, shoe mouth deep. "We both put our shoulders to the wheel and I shouted to the team when they finally pulled me out of my trouble," said Mr. Patton.

"After thanking him I took out a little book and a back hand pencil and asked him to write his name in it. I might be able to help you some day." The boy wiped the mud off his hand and wrote, 'George Sengel.' From this little incident a lasting friendship was formed between the two men.

"Later, George Sengel went into the hardware business and I bought a Tennessee wagon and many other things from him. When he entered politics I did him many favors. He was a real town booster and Fort Smith never had a better one.

Mr. Patton is a citizen of wide influence and when the opportunity came, he was a power in his community in helping Mr. Sengel to become a state senator of Arkansas.

As a justice of the peace for 26 years, Mr. Patton has performed 700 marriage ceremonies. He has written many articles of history of this part of the state and his stories are valuable records for future generations.

Burglars were working in Fort Smith in October, 1900. Mr. John Guler found himself face to face with one in the early morning of Oct. 19. The moment the intruder saw Mr. Guler, he began retreating but not until he had fired two shots. Mr. Guler made an attempt to get the burglar but without success. While the shooting was going on Mr. Guler was not more than four or five feet from the thief, and that he escaped injury, was almost miraculous. In his escape the burglar left his coat behind. All that he secured was a pocket book of Mr. Guler's daughter, containing not over a dollar.

⁴⁹ Fannie is probably Maj. Rector's great-niece, Fannie Wharton Johnson.

⁵⁰ Slosson is the correct spelling.

¹From scrapbook of Eunice Pool, Greenwood, Arkansas.

TEXAS CORNER

By N. J. Kelly

COVER STORY 1904

TEXAS CORNER, Fort Smith, Arkansas, was the junction, of Texas Road and Garrison Avenue. It was always the scene of much activity due to the location of the horse and mule market and the wagon yard, along with the many saloons in the area along Garrison Avenue. Texas Road ran due south from this point.

The view in this photograph is possibly made from the sidewalk porch, or canopy, in front of the Kelly Brothers Meat Market which was located at 1016 Garrison Avenue at that time. This picture was made after 1902, possibly about 1904. This date is based on the fact that the large white house in upper right, 100 North 11th Street, was the home of my father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. James N. Kelly who were married in 1902. They lived in a house on the Kelly family property located on Texas Road until this new home was completed.

The road in the foreground is now North Towson Avenue. The Horse and Mule Market, along North Towson Avenue, was operated by John B. Williams. His motto was "In Fort Smith Life's Worth Living." The telephone number of his business was, "one-one-one". His brother, Leon Williams, operated a smiliar business in the one hundred block on North Tenth street. The phone number of Leon Williams' business was, "four-four-four", at that time.

I am not certain what the business of M. D. Liggett was at that time. However, it is safe to assume that it had to deal with horses. The area to the right, or east, of the white fence that runs from the corner to an apparent junction with the M. D. Liggett business building, was Lannigan's Wagon Yard. The wagon yard of that time was the equivalent of the modern day trailer park. People came from miles around either to buy from the local merchants, to bring cotton to the several gins, or to view a hanging. Although this picture was probably made in 1904, the Lannigan Wagon Yard was in operation years before even during the time of Judge I. E. Parker's famous Court.

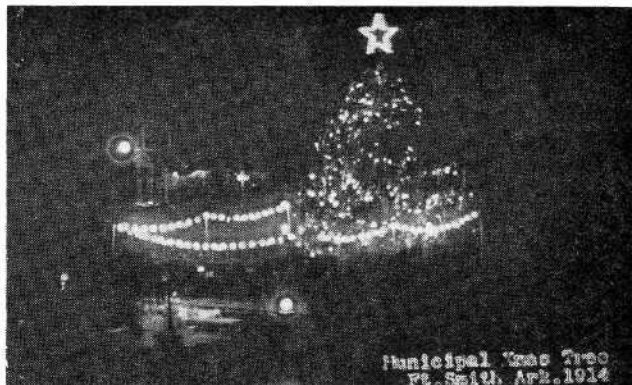
On the corner, across "A" street from the Kelly home, was the home of Doctor Means. The first house north of the Kelly home was the home of Mr. & Mrs. W. F. Rowe. The next home was that of the Holberg's. Mr. Holberg was a wholesale liquor dealer. The large white house on the west side of North 11th Street, 105 North 11th, was the home of the John Moore family. Directly east, behind the Cardin Feed Co., was a boarding house operated by a Mrs. Burns. Across the alley from Burns' Boarding House was a millinery shop. Over the rear end of Cardin Feed Company can be seen the roof of a large structure on North "B" street. This was one of the early hotels of Fort Smith which was later converted to a hospital. Above the top of Burns' Boarding house can be seen a horse. This "horse" was mounted atop the elevator housing of Leon Williams' Horse and Mule Market on North 10th St.

1914

THE PLAZA, at TEXAS CORNER¹

These photos present views of The Plaza during the Christmas Season. The day time photo could very well be showing the crowds that gathered for each annual Christmas Program which included community singing of Christmas Carols, a Santa that distributed toys to the more needy children, Yuletide music, and distribution of generous food baskets to needy families.

¹Plaza now site of Regal 8 Inn at 1021 Garrison



These photos were possibly made from atop the Friedman-Mincer building, which I believe was completed in 1912, in the southeast section of Texas Corner. The views are almost directly toward the North.

The Plaza was a downtown park with beautiful flower beds during the Spring and Summer. They were maintained under the direction of George Rye, the florist of that day. The motto of his business was "Some Florist!" His hobby was baseball, and he was the official announcer for all home games of "The Twins" and later "The Giants", which were Fort Smith's baseball teams. Those who were fortunate to have heard him announce; "Batteries for today are . . ." through his large megaphone will never forget his voice and the opening spell he cast for the ballgame.

During those years, before radio and television, Mr. Rye would also report each play of the World Series games, from the second floor window of the Southwest American newspaper office, as the reports came in on telegraph lines direct to that office. During these games, crowds would be massed on the lawn of the Federal Building across Rogers Avenue from the newspaper office. George's voice, through the megaphone, could be heard loud and clear even at the far limits of the crowd.

The Plaza had chat gravel walkways, bandstand, flag pole with "Old Glory" waving each day. There were many one-globe light poles throughout the park, and many comfortable benches were provided. During the Spring, Summer and early Fall it was a mecca for the folks who took evening walks in the area. Here they enjoyed friendly visitations with other Fort Smith residents.

Even in other neighborhoods throughout Fort Smith, evening walks and visits with friends and neighbors was enjoyed during the evening calm. Those who did not take a walk would be sitting in the yard swing, or in a rocker brought outdoors to the front lawn. Remember, this was 1914, long before the advent of radio, T. V. and air-conditioning, each of which has done its part to isolate each family from his neighbors and friends and keep people indoors. The evening walks and visits kept each family in close contact with his friend and neighbor. It was a most wonderful mental therapy for all.

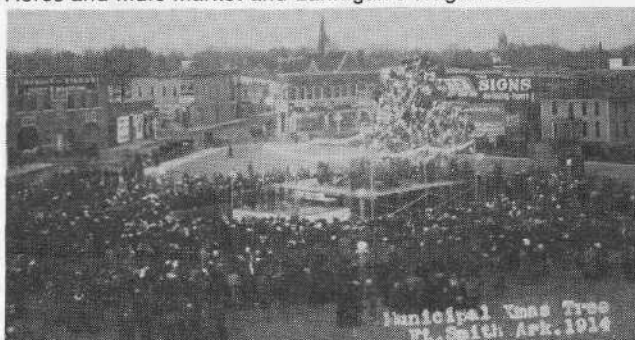
During it's era, The Plaza was the scene of political speeches, band concerts, highwire artists, medicine shows and other attractions. The politicians did not have the aid of microphone with amplifying equipment but their voice would carry from the bandstand to the sidewalk on the Garrison Avenue end of The Plaza.

The medicine shows generally featured a black-face minstrel team, a hula dancer, and a magician before the "doctor" offered his wonderful tonic for sale. As I recall, such tonics were sup-

posed to be a cure-all for every and any illness that may befall mankind. The price was hawked as, "twentyfive cents, two-bits, the fourth part of a dollar" per bottle. However, a special was offered to the first five persons buying a bottle. They would receive two bottles for the low price of twenty-five cents. I later learned that those first ten bottles, which were hurriedly bought, were sold to "plants" in the crowd.

The performance of the high-wire artists were often breathtaking, many in the crowd would gasp as a foothold was intentionally missed. The music throughout the act was provided by a group of local musicians. The numbers they played were most generally, "The Beautiful Ohio Waltz" and "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles". The high-wire artists were by far the most popular attraction of any presented at The Plaza.

The Plaza was located on the same tract of land that had previously been the location of the John B. William's "4-4-4" Horse and Mule Market and Lannigan's Wagon Yard.



Note, in the day-time picture of The Plaza Municipal Christmas Tree, the Trieschs Stables at #17 & #19 North Tenth Street are visible. The finest of horses and carriages were available for hire from these stables.

1916

This photo made with camera located on the southeast section of Texas Corner, and focused toward the intersection of North Towson with Garrison Avenue, shows but very little activity. The street car tracks in the foreground show the switch from Garrison Avenue tracks to the North Eleventh and Van Buren car tracks.

Trolley wires are seen suspended from the cross arms of poles down the center of Garrison Avenue. The carbon arc light at the intersection of Towson and Garrison Avenues - or rather I should have stated Texas Road and Garrison Avenue - can be seen overhead. Carbon arc lights were overhead at each cross street intersection with Garrison Avenue.

We boys, on occasion, would follow the light maintenance man of the Fort Smith Light and Traction Company, to watch him connect an extension rope to the ring on the cable from which the arc light was suspended. This was done at a corner pole where the ring of the cable was hooked. He would then take a four-legged stool, which had glass insulators on the end of each leg, and place it under the lowered light. he would stand on this stool while replacing the burned out carbon sticks with new ones. We would salvage the burned out and discarded carbon for writing on sidewalks.

The wagon with team is being loaded at the City Feed Company. The billboards at the right end of picture are on the South end of The Plaza, the downtown park, and were erected sometime between 1914 (see photo of Municipal Christmas Tree on Plaza) and this 1916 photo.

The date of this photo was determined by the New Theatre billing which reads Friday November 3. That day and date occurred in 1916, next previous year was 1876 for that combination, the next more recent year would have been 1944. Source, the perpetual calendar.



These two snapshots, made with a Kodak box camera using film size 116, illustrate two types of carriages available for hire from the Trieschs Stables.



My Grandfather, Wm. F. Rowe, rented this carriage and horse from Trieschs Stables to make an all day visit with the Stromberg family who lived on State Line Road. Grandmother Rowe is in the carriage. The kid beside her is yours truly. Grandfather Rowe is holding the bridle



This funeral hack was rented from Trieschs Stables for the funeral of my Aunt in 1916.

ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON

These "Nine Kelly Cousins" were out for a Sunday afternoon stroll in 1888, when they decided to have their picture made by C. C. Cook the photographer. Cook was a prominent photographer at that time in Fort Smith.

The young ladies in the front row are, left to right, Magdaline Coulter, who later married a Mr. Harrington; Etty Brennan; Mae Coulter; Annie McFarland, who married a Mr. McShane; and Molly McFarland, who married a Mr. Sinclair.

The men in the back row, left to right, James N. Kelly, James Coulter, Lawrence Keating and Nicholas McAuley.

Lawrence Keating served as a guard in the Federal Jail of Judge Issac Parker for nine years. On the evening of July 26, 1895, the outlaw, Cherokee Bill, the chosen leader in an organized jail break¹, shot Lawrence Keating twice, killing him. Cherokee Bill was convicted for the murder and was hung from Judge Parker's gallows on March 17, 1896.



¹For the complete detailed account of the jail break by Cherokee Bill and confederates, and the murder of Keating, see Chapter 8 of *Law West of Fort Smith*, by Glen Shirley.

FORT SMITH 1878

Prepared for printing by Carolyn Pollan

Reading about one hundred years ago in Fort Smith is like reading a popular western. This city that opened to the Indian Territory was trying desperately to bring civilization to this part of the world.

The Fort Smith New Era, Valentine Dell, Editor, provides us with a good insight into what's happening in the city. The city was engaged in a building program and almost weekly had new businesses on or near The Avenue opening their doors for the first time.



Fort Smith Weekly New Era
January 9, 1879

Major F. W. Thibaut, U. S. Army, and wife¹ arrived Monday night from Dacotah, where the Major has been stationed for some time. They are stopping with Maj. Elias Rector, Mrs. T's father. Major Thibaut, whose mother was a Countess Bismark of the South German branch, looks as hearty as ever. Mrs. T. is rather delicate in health. We welcome them home.

Direct Telegraphic Communication, - The inconvenience of having to send a message across the raging Arkansas by hand in order that it should reach the office at Cherokee, will be obviated in a day or so by the energy and perseverance of Col. Hartman, Superintendent of the L.R. & F.S. R'Y., who has been engaged for some time past in the attempt to make the electric wire extend to this town. Yesterday the wire was extended across the Arkansas river, a distance of more than half a mile. But unfortunately several accidents occurred to create further delay in the accomplishment of the enterprise. The wire slipped a knot, and on being stretched again, became entangled on a snag and parted in the middle of the river. Without further accident, Superintendent Hartman expects to have the wires in operation today or tomorrow.

RIVER NEWS

The Arkansas river is falling, but is still in good boating stage for the best steamers.

The Rose City, Capt. Yerkes, arrived Sunday and departed Monday noon. Owing to the bad condition of the roads and the consequent difficulty of hauling cotton to the city, she received only a light freight.

The steamer John G. Fletcher, Henry Fennigan commanding, has entered the Little Rock and Fort Smith trade as a weekly packet.

The half completed jetty works in front of Fort Smith have produced far more favorable results than were expected. They have made a channel through the bar seven feet deep, two hundred feet wide and six hundred feet long, which is rapidly widening and deepening. An additional \$10,000 appropriation will doubtless be obtained in due time and make the great work a complete success.

Coal from the mines in this county is now 30 cents a bushel or \$7.50 a ton. Before the bad weather set in it was only 15 cents a bushel. Horsehead coal, from Johnson county, can be brought here by rail much cheaper, and a number of our citizens are going to avail themselves of this. So look out, coal dealers of Sebastian county.

¹ Kate Rector Thibaut, see diary in this issue.

January 16, 1878

THE SIXTEENTH AMMENDMENT

The "Woman's Suffrage" Amendment agitation has obtained dimensions and importance, such as make it necessary to pay some attention to it, even on the part of those opposed to it, like ourselves, who, we are free to confess, believe that suffrage, for the good of society in general, has already become more extended than the intelligence and moral advancement of the country warrants. Our Washington correspondence of the 10th say:

The Woman's suffrage Convention met at 2 o'clock yesterday in the Lincoln Hall, in this city as it has done annually for 10 years. About all the veterans and many of the recruits who have joined the movement within the past 20 years were here. Every State is represented by delegate or letter, mostly by the former. The headquarters are at the Riggs House though the prominent leaders were entertained by Congressional and other friends, a suggestive fact when taken in connection with the antecedent, and that less than a quarter of century ago they could hardly find where to lay their heads, the few favorable disposed shrinking from the odium and the social ostracism that would surely have fallen to their lot had the direction of their sympathies been publicly known. It requires no great stretch of memory to recall the time when a "woman shrieker" could only traverse our streets under police protection; and even then she was in danger of being bombarded with addled hen fruit, and very sure to hear the worlds estimate in language profane and nasty. At Monday's caucus held in the Ladies Reception Room adjoining the Senate Chamber, it was stated that their request to be allowed to present their cases in open Senate had been met by the statement that there was no precedent for such a proceeding; but during the discussion it was alleged that Mrs. Sherman and Dalgren had been permitted to make an appeal against woman suffrage before the Senate; which spurned the latter to a denial in toto in last evenings "Star"; however that may be, we are confident that the delegates will insist on the full measures of their right to be heard before both Houses. By persistent agitation they have been enabled to report progress at every annual meeting, and Senators and Representatives may prepare themselves, one and all, for rigorous assault. It has now become quite the thing for society leaders to attend the sessions of the convention, and no one now presumes to question them for encouraging a dangerous, heavy and a startling innovation.

Sebastian county received an important acquisition to its population last Friday, in the arrival of twenty-four worthy German immigrants from Indiana. The leader of the party, Mr. Bernard Quante, accompanied by one of his sons, paid us a pleasant visit, and expressed himself well pleased with the country.

The colony have purchased nearly a thousand acres of land on Mazzard Prairie, a few miles from town, and have located on their new possessions and commenced improvement in earnest.

CORRECTION — A slip of the pen made us say, the mother of our friend Maj. Thibaut, U.S.A. now on a visit here, was a Countess of Bismark. It should have been "sister".

January 23, 1878

A handsome tin-roofed awning, supported by light graceful iron columns and lattice beams, is being constructed the full length of Commercial Row, over 140 feet.

The pay car of the Little Rock and Fort Smith railway was up last Thursday with Maj. Gay, paymaster. Col. Hartman, superintendent of the road, also came up with some telegraph wire, to repair the break in the line across the river at this point.

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Until the break in the line of the telegraph across the Arkansas river at this point is repaired, messages left at the office—Tilles' newsdepot, Kannady block—will be taken across the river promptly by Nick Porter, the messenger.

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Quite a number of people from the rural districts flocked into the city on the 18th inst. to witness the hanging of three men, who were convicted during the last term of the U.S. court.

As all enlightened citizens know, the sentences of the prisoners had been commuted to imprisonment for life, and the fact duly announced in the paper.

Had the duped visitors been subscribers of the *NEW ERA*, they would have avoided their humiliating disappointment, and saved expenses amounting to several times the subscription price of the paper. Let them profit by the lesson and subscribe at once.

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January 30, 1878

Quite a long train of movers passed through the city last Friday enroute for Texas.

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Farmers have availed themselves of the prevailing fine weather of the past week to finish cotton picking.

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Judging from the grand tidal wave of immigration, present and prospective improvements, and other signs of the times, Fort Smith is the future great city of Arkansas.

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We apprehend, that, unless there is some support of the telegraph wire in the middle of the river, the sag of 3000 feet will be too great and the line constantly in danger of being broke.

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Look at Both Sides—We will furnish the Weekly Arkansas Gazette, the leading democratic paper in the State, and the New Era, the only republican paper in Arkansas, for the small sum of three dollars per year.

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We are indebted to Mr. Geo. Sengel, of the firm of W.N. Ayers and Co., for a copy of a large photograph, representing the upper part of Garrison Avenue from the corner of Howard street, on December 20th last, a day on which Garrison Avenue, though 120 feet wide, was so crowded with vehicles of every description, that passageway was extremely difficult to obtain. It was only one day out of any fair day during the last four months, and gives some idea of the business done here.

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February 6, 1878

We learn that a new steel wire will be stretched across the Arkansas river this week and that the telegraph pole on the Cherokee side has been raised to 100 feet, so as to prevent the wire being broken by passing boats.

A CRYING EVIL

The condition of the streets of this town is wretched beyond description and a stinging disgrace to it as well as an injury to its business. From the favorable situation of the town proper grading and perfect drainage of every street is a matter of easy accomplishment. Yet so derelict in this matter have our municipal authorities been for years past, that many of our streets are impassable for vehicles at many points and others falling rapidly into similiar decay. Garrison avenue, our main street and from its noble width—120 feet—ample sidewalks and gentle rise from the river for more than half a mile, naturally one of the finest streets, has for months past during the wet spell been in such a condition, as to merit the charge, that it was worse than the worst imaginable country road. Indeed so notorious had this fact become, that popular indignation found vent in keen and well deserved satire; and no little amusement was created one day last week, when there was seen in a large pool near the business center of the street, a pair of muddy boots sticking out of the water, soles up, as though their owner had fallen in and gone down, headforemost.

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February 13, 1878

Editor New Era: - a new post office has been established in Sebastian County on route from Fort Smith to Chocoville, called Backbone. It is five miles this side of Hackett. Wm. B. Manners will be the Post-master. The office will be ready for business in the course of about twenty days.

J.H. Clendenning
P.M.

— • —

February 20, 1878

Sale of Real Estate—Carnall and Wheeler, real estate brokers, recently sold a large amount of land to new settlers from Indiana and Ohio. Good wood land brings \$9.00 per acre and prairie about \$5.00.

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February 27, 1878

A GOOD MOVE

We understand that Col. Fishback, who has land enough on his Dillard place, adjoining town, to make seven or eight hundred town lots together with the streets and alleys, and who offered through the New York Tribune last summer to give a lot to each of a hundred families, now proposes, in order to start improvement in that direction, to cut up three hundred lots on the ground between the Schuetzen park and Van Buren road, and running back on that beautiful ridge toward General Bonneville's overlooking the town.....

Now if the Col. will put the price down to say thirty dollars payable one third in cash and balance in one and two years, he will put them within the reach of any thrifty man....We hope that Mr. Fishback will carry out his project.

— • —

Our famous Fort Smith Cornet Band has been engaged by the Little Rock Mardi Gras committee to perform at the State Capital during the festive days next week. We are sure, that they will return covered with glory.

Fort Smith has a full share of worthless characters, male and female, white and black. The rips have again become a great nuisance, and there are about eight or ten white boys, with perhaps as many blacks, who are inevitably gravitating toward the penitentiary, if not the gallows. The former are almost without exception the sons of respectable parents and well connected, and if they do not adopt a radical change of life, certain to bring shame upon themselves and their connections. In the meantime let our officials have a vigilant eye upon them.

Gen. N. W. Brown, Ass't Paymaster General, U.S.A. arrived here on Monday night, to be with his wife, the sister of our esteemed fellow citizen, Dr. E. R. DuVal, at whose residence she was stopping and who is very low with consumption. Mrs. Brown who is also the sister of Col. B. T. DuVal and of Mrs. Elias Rector², came here recently, to this her native place, from New York in quest of health. But fell disease seems to have obtained the mastery and the lady will in all probability breathe her last on the spot, where she first saw the light of this troublesome world, amid her numerous loving relatives and kind friends who are doing everything to cheer her declining day. May her end be in peace.

RIVER NEWS

The Arkansas took a big rise on Friday last and continued rising till Sunday, some fifteen feet. It is now falling slowly. There must have been very heavy rains out West.

On Wednesday last the Ashland, Capt. John A. Williams, returned from a short trip up to Skullyville Landing, Indian Territory, about 3 P.M., making the trip of 26 miles and back, unloading a large number of barrels of salt and loading 250 bales of cotton for Parke and Sparks, within nine hours. After taking on some five hundred bales of cotton here, she left on Thursday morning for New Orleans and will make up a full cargo 2000 bales—before she leaves Arkansas river.

The Maumelle, Capt. Darragh, from Little Rock, came up Sunday morning early with a good load and left again late in the evening.

The L.R. packet, Rose City, came up the same day and left Monday.

The John G. Fletcher arrived from Little Rock on time yesterday.

March 6, 1878

PATENT NO. 200,000

Among the patents leaving the Patent Office on a recent date, is one issued to Shea and Hamilton for a carburetor, which bears the number 200,000. This, however, is not the whole number of patents that have been issued, but only those granted since the reorganization of the office in 1836, as before that period the patents were not numbered. The whole number of patents issued from 1790 to the reorganization in 1836 number 11,348. By adding these to the No. 200,000 above referred to, we get 211,348 as the whole number of patents issued up to the granting of the patent of Shea and Hamilton. The average number of patents issued

yearly, up to and including 1836, was 247. The average since that time was 4,839.

We are glad to learn that the old veteran, General Bonneville, who has had a severe attack of pneumonia, is out of danger again and able to sit up. The General, in spite of his four score years and over, has still an unimpaired constitution and enjoys good health ordinarily.

On Monday the wire was once more stretched across the Arkansas river and telegraphic communication re-established. Mr. Frank Hubbard, an experienced operator, is in the office, which is four doors above the New Era office in Tilles' bookstore.

Mr. Willard Ayers, U.S. Deputy Marshal, come in to-day from Oklahoma with two prisoners, one charged with murder, the other of larceny. Mr. C.C. Ayers, U.S. Deputy Marshal, arrived here on Tuesday with five prisoners from Oklahoma.

March 27, 1878

Unfair for the Fair sex

Boston, March 24 - A bill granting female suffrage at municipal elections has been defeated in the house - 127 to 73.

Providence, March 12 - The House of Representatives defeated by nineteen to thirty-five the constitutional amendment giving unmarried women and widows the same privileges as men in voting upon propositions to impose a tax, or appropriate money, or for the city council.

April 3, 1878

Mr. John Vaughan's new patent churn creates more excitement, and draws larger crowds, than three hangings. John says he can make butter out of water in two minutes. Go see it.

Maj. F. W. Thibaut and wife, and Miss Minnie Rector, bade the old folks and the old home good-bye last Wednesday, and started for their home, Ft. Buford, Dakota Territory. Miss Minnie goes on a visit. They are followed by the best wishes of many friends for their safe arrival at their journeys' end.

April 10, 1878

Work on Joe Scherman's new rock building on the avenue is rapidly progressing, and when completed will be the finest blacksmith and wagon shop ever put up here.

Our enterprising young townsman Mr. Wm. Breen is gathering the material together for the construction of substantial two story rock building on the opposite side of the Avenue from his present stand. Improvements still go on.

Mr. W. H. Johnson, who runs a mill and cotton gin on Water street has made arrangements to add a wool-carding machine to his institution, which will be in operation in about 30 days.

² Catherine Rector, author of diary elsewhere in this issue.

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The railroad tick-office has been removed to Tilles' bookstore 66 Kannady block, where you can have your baggage checked to all local stations on the L.R. & F.S. rail-road, and also through to Saint Louis and Memphis.

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Judge Clayton's little daughter Florence, whose two short sunny years had not yet brought the experience, which comes after a longer sojourn in this world, and teaches that "things are not always what they seem" found a cup containing something which she attempted to drink, but as the cup contained lye, her mouth and throat were severely burned; prompt and timely aid afforded some relief and we are glad to learn that the little girl is now recovering.

— • —

Several parties on Monday evening last were engaged in dredging Picchi's lake. They were very reticent as to what they were dredging for. An outlay by the city of a few dollars would place it in a condition both safe to life and property.

April 17, 1878

The Murphy Movement

The Murphy temperance movement of which we spoke in our last issue, has been in progress during the past eight days. Meetings were held in the Christian Chapel last week, but the increased attendance made it necessary to procure larger and more convenient quarters, and Adelaide hall has been secured during the present week. Mr. Wilson thoroughly understands his business and is earnest in his endeavors to reclaim the fallen and to throw around the young and wayward a protecting influence that may prevent them, in an unguarded moment, from yielding to the blandishments of unthinking youth or the seductive charms of society and fashion, which may blast their bright hopes and prospects for the future and leave them as stranded wrecks upon the sea of human life, a curse to themselves, a reproach to those that love them, and a blot upon the bright disk of honorable manhood. The meetings are nightly growing in interest, and many are donning the badge that proclaims to the world their total abstinence principles. About 175 have already signed the pledge.

April 24, 1878

Mr. Joe Grady, of Van Buren, last Wednesday took a pistol from his pocket at the City Hotel when the weapon accidentally went off, causing considerable consternation among the crowd standing around. He was taxed \$41.00 for carrying an unlawful weapon.

— • —

On the lot adjoining the Euper estate, formerly the Lucy property, the earth is being removed preparatory to putting up a large stone store house, by our sturdy townsman, J. Pappenheimer, the hardward man. Verily, our city is looking up these dull times.

— • —

Arkansas State scrip, at Little Rock, buying 72¢ selling 72½¢. Auditor's warrants, buying at 90 @ 91.

Sebastian county scrip, old 65¢—little in the market. New, Fort Smith District 45¢; Greenwood District 50¢. Fort Smith city scrip 60¢.

— • —

Considerable improvement has been made on the Avenue Hotel, kept by Mrs. J. T. High. It has been repainted and remodeled generally, and now ranks among the best hotels of our flourishing city in every department.

— • —

Just think of it—a nice 14 pound ham for 98 cents. That's the way O'Daniel, the up-town grocery man, sells them—and right here we will mention that he sells everything else in his line at correspondingly low rates.

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Improvements—Gen. Czarnikow has removed the beautiful shrubbery in front of his residence on the Avenue, and is getting everything ready for the immediate construction of a substantial stone business house.

— • —

I.O.G.T. - An election of officers for Frontier Lodge No. 21, I.O.G.T. held at the hall of the order on Thursday night, April 25th, resulted as follows:

J. E. Bennett, W.C.T.: Miss Jennie Meyers, W.V.T.: J. H. Sparks, W.S.; Rev. W.A. Sample, W.C.; Mrs. A.B. Sparks, W.T.; J.M. Barnes, W.M.; Miss L.A. Sparks, W.I.G.; Geo. Barnes, W.O.G.

May 8, 1878

The May term of the U.S. Court convened on Monday, but as no funds are at hand to defray expenses, Judge Parker will be compelled to adjourn the court until next July, after disposing of the civil cases. Action will also be taken in criminal cases where parties are desirous of pleading guilty. There are some seventy prisoners in jail awaiting trial, and the adjournment of court will necessitate their remaining in there until the July term, which is rather hard on them and no small expense to the Government. The docket shows about 150 criminal cases in all.

STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Condensed report of Proceedings of the Meeting held in this city, May 1st and 2nd

The Society was called to order by Dr. E. R. DuVal, chairman of the committee of arrangements, who, after prayer by Rev. W. A. Sample, introduced Mayor Brizzolara, who, in behalf of the citizens of Fort Smith, welcomed the members of the Society to the City. Dr. J.H.T. Main delivered an address of welcome on behalf of the Fort Smith Sebastian Co. Medical Society, which was responded to by Dr. Jennings on behalf of the State Society. second day.....

Dr. DuVal then presented the triplets of Mrs. Wm. M. Cravens, of this city, aged three years, two boys and one girl. They were very bright children and remarkably healthy.

The thanks of the society were tendered Mrs. Cravens for allowing the children to be presented.

Most of the afternoon was consumed in hearing reports and the discussion of various cases and their treatment, a full report of which would occupy too much room to be given here.

May 15, 1878

Mr. Fred Meier, in company with several gentlemen from Ohio, intends establishing a furniture factory on an extensive scale in what is commonly called the Sparks building, a large brick building near the river.

— • —

While making an excursion through the suburbs of the city on Sunday we were in the vicinity of the new brick residence of Mr. C.F. Bocquin, on the Race Track prairie, which is fast nearing completion. The building is three stories in height, capped by an observatory which commands a grand view of the surrounding country.

May 22, 1878

Our Public Schools

Through the politeness of Miss Emma Wheatley, in charge of our public schools, we are furnished with the roll of honor for the past month.

Belle Grove enrolled 166
Howard enrolled 112

May 29, 1878

The telephonic fever has reached Fort Smith. The young gentlemen are having lines run from where business keeps them daily, to the houses of their dearest fair ones, so that messages, either polite, sociable or sentimental, can be exchanged.

— • —

THE BALLON ASCENSION

At six o'clock on Thursday, Prof. Coleman and his balloon went up finely, to the grand delight of the assembled multitude of all ages size and color. The Prof. rose above common mortals from a point on the reserve and sailed over a distance of four blocks, performing some daring feats on the trapeze meanwhile. He came down without the slightest hesitation in the portion of the city which usually answers to the name of "Ginger's Corner." Finding that his balloon would come in collision with a tree the Prof. ignored an intervening space between the balloon and the ground of about ten feet and stepped out and down to meet the congratulations of a large and appreciative portion of the excited and delighted crowd.

HOME MARKET

**CORRECTED WEEKLY BY
S A M B O L L I N G E R
NO. 102 and 104 Garrison Avenue.**

salt pr. barrel	\$2.00
corn, pr. bushel shelled60
cheese, pr. pound20
butter, pr. pound	10@ .15
eggs, pr. doz.....	12½ .25
Irish potatoes, pr. bushel.....	.60
bacon, pr. pound	6½@ .08
coffee, pr. pound	20@ .25
wood pr. cord	2.50
coal pr. bushel10

June 12, 1878

A board of Health has been established by our city council, Drs. DuVal and Baily being appointed as such board. A wise action.

— • —

WORKINGMENS' MEETING

Pursuant to call made for a public meeting of the workingmen of this locality, quite a large number of that class of citizens assembled at the court room, on Thursday evening of last week, for the purpose of organizing a society. Several speeches were delivered and communications read. Aside from this, little was done except to appoint a committee on permanent organization, and the discussion of other matters in connection with the order. A vote of thanks was tendered Sheriff Falconer for the use of the Court room, and the meeting adjourned to Saturday, June 14th, when it is expected a permanent organization will be effected.

THE BLACK CAP

One Man to be Hung and three
Have Their Sentences Com-
muted to imprisonment
for Life
The Execution not to be Public

The execution will be conducted in a more private manner than heretofore. The platform of the gallows has been lowered some four feet and is to be enclosed by a sixteen foot plank fence, and no one will be permitted to witness the proceedings except the officers in charge, the medical fraternity, members of the press, etc. We think the arrangement will meet the approval of all enlightened people.

DEATH OF GENERAL B.L.E. BONNEVILLE

It is with feelings of profound sorrow and regret that we chronicle the death of this distinguished gentleman, which occurred at his residence near this city on Wednesday last, after a lingering illness. He was in the 83rd year of his age. He leaves a young wife and a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn his loss.....

Gen Bonneville was the oldest officer on the retired list of the United States army, having received his first commission about sixty years. ago. His life has been an eventful one, and his services on this frontier date back as far as 1821.

The remains of Gen B.L.E. Bonneville will arrive from Fort Smith to St. Louis.....The body will be taken to St. John's Catholic Church.....thence it will be conveyed to Bellefontaine Cemetery and interred in the General's lot, where repose his first wife and daughter.

June 26, 1878

The following paragraph we clip from the N.Y. Tribune:

General Benjamin L.E. Bonneville, the soldier and explorer, who has just died at his home in Fort Smith, Arkansas, at the age of ninety-six, was a graduate at West point, and the officer in charge of the Western Exploring Expedition, whose history is told in Washington Irving's engaging book, "Adventures of Captain Bonneville." His father was a French refugee, once a member of the French Convention and the friend of Lafayette and Condorcet; and in Benjamin Bonneville's youth he spent a year with Lafayette at La Grange.

— • —

The steamer "Aunt Sallie" came up last Friday morning and departed in the afternoon for Arkansas City, a point some distance above here, to get a load of wheat for some parties at Little Rock.

— • —

The Democrats held their primary conventions in the different townships of this county last Saturday. Their county convention comes off today at Greenwood.

BOOK TALK

by Amelia Martin

The Fort Smith Historical Journal will review books by Fort Smith authors, and books on the Fort Smith area and history in general as a special feature each issue. Authors who would like to have their publications reviewed should send a copy of their book, or books, to the secretary of the Fort Smith Historical Society, 61 South Eighth Street, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901. The book, after review, will remain in the Arkansas Room of the Fort Smith Public Library as a gift from the author and the Historical Society for use by the public.

R.F.D. IN HILL BILLY COUNTRY, by Clarence Winborn. Illustrations by Laverne Nelson. Price \$3.50. Available at Osco Drug Store in Central Mall and Little Professor Books Store in Phoenix Mall, Fort Smith, or from the author, Clarence Winborn, Box 386, Alma, Arkansas 72921.

As the name suggests, this is the story of Clarence Winborn's 36 years as a mail carrier for Rural Free Delivery — 26 years at Alma, 10 years at Van Buren, plus one year in the post office at Fort Smith. It is the story of the pleasures, the hardships and unusual experiences of a rural mail carrier, beginning with "Horse and Buggy Days", progressing through "Model-T Days" to his retirement; and the story of his friends along his route — told with the warmth and feeling of this man who cherished these friends he served.

Clarence Winborn was born at Hazen, Arkansas on 21 December 1894, but moved to Alma when eleven years old. He was married there in 1916 and is the father of five children. One son, Rudolph Winborn, followed his father's footsteps in the postal service, and is postmaster at Alma. Two daughters, Mayme (Harris) and Margie (Coleman), also live at Alma; a son, Woodrow lives in Tulsa; and his youngest son, Dr. Benny Winborn, is assistant superintendent of schools at Fayetteville, Arkansas.

At the age of 82, Clarence Winborn attended creative writing classes at Westark Community College in Fort Smith, where he acquired writing skills and confidence to write this interesting book of his experiences. While not in school this semester, Mr. Winborn took three courses at Westark in 1976-77.

SHALLOW WATER SAILING, by William C. Culp, M. D. III.

Illustrations and photography by the author. 217 pages, hard bound. Price \$13.95. Available in Fort Smith at Vivian's Book Shop, the Boston Store, and from the author.

While the title may suggest a text book, *Shallow Water Sailing* is far from a book of instruction on sailing! It is the delightful exciting story of a year in the life of Dr. William C. Culp, a Fort Smith physician, his wife, Tracy, and their three year old daughter, Jen—a story of their experiences aboard their twenty-seven foot sail boat, the *Dulcina*, as they cruised 6,000 miles along the American east coast and the incomparable Bahama Islands.

The relaxed cruise demonstrates another way of living — a comfortable life without the supposed "essentials" of a modern world, a life *in* nature, a cold northern bay full of tasty blue eyed scallops, a tropical sea that provides fresh fish and lobster for the taking, a primeval swamp that teams with life and provides blue crab for the pot, a fathomless nighttime sea alive with phosphorescence and the swoosh of dolphins breathing alongside. A life without pretense, a life song sung to nature's beat of a wave, the rise and fall of the tide, and the change of the seasons.

This volume sows a dangerous seed. It shows how easy it is for even a typical American workaholic to break away and make the dream a reality — a must for sailors, dreamers, and doers.

William C. Culp, M.D., grew up in Oklahoma, far from the traditional coastal centers of yachting, and taught himself to sail in home-made boats. By age 18, he had constructed five sailboats, including two Snipes, and a 16-foot racing sloop which introduced him to sailing competition. The next few years, he concentrated on racing and enjoyed regional victories in several dinghy classes, most notably in Snipes and Lasars. Subsequent success has come in larger boats, including small ocean racers along the Gulf Coast where he was recently honored as the "Yachtsman of the Year" by the Galveston Yacht Club.

While serving as a medical officer in the U.S. Coast Guard, Bill, his wife Tracy, and infant daughter, Jen, applied their knowledge of sailing dinghies to a small auxiliary sloop, and made the transition to cruising life. This eventually led to the year long sabbatical cruise recounted in *Shallow Water Sailing*, his first publication aside from medical articles.

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Crawford and Sebastian Counties, Arkansas, 1817-1976

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2121 Wolfe Lane
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901

CORRESPONDENCE FROM READERS

In our letters received since the December issue, one of our readers asks a question that many of you may be wondering about. We quote from her letter:

"I have had the second Journal, and, as you might expect, it was the diary I found most interesting! I wonder if everyone receiving the Journal is supposed to fill out the genealogy sheet included in it, or does this apply only to the residents of Fort Smith?....."

Signed: Mrs. Roy Colvett
Paris, Arkansas

In answer to Mrs. Colvett's question, we hope everyone who reads the Journal will complete the Ancestor Chart form included in the December issue. Each form which includes the name of a resident of Sebastian County will be bound into a volume for use in the Fort Smith Public Library — all others will be placed in the family manuscript file at the same library for use by family history researchers.

A Fort Smith reader corrects one of our Bloopers with an interesting story of his own:

"I am enjoying very much your Journals of the Fort Smith Historical Society, but I must correct a correction as made on page 94 of the second issue.

The correction I refer to is the one that clarifies the name John Smith by making it John P. Smith. Acutally, the name was John Smith P. Does that sound strange and improbable? Not so, his legal name was John Smith P.

I remember him well; he usually wore frock coat and bowler hat and carried a gold headed walking stick.

The story of the P. in his name is that his parents had failed to give him a middle name. After becoming an adult, realizing that there were probably hundreds of other John Smiths, he took the necessary legal steps to add a distinguishing initial. And it was just an initial; the P stood for no name at all. But in order to make it quite unique, he added it on the end of his name instead of in the

middle. Thus he became John Smith P., a name that I believe is unique in American history."

Signed: Payne Morrow, Fort Smith

The following is from an article in the Fort Smith New Era, Dec. 2, 1881:

A Model Residence

Through the kindness of Mr. John Smith P, we were shown through his new dwelling on Lafayette street, which will be ready for occupancy next week. The building is a handsome two story frame 25 x 40 feet, with a one story ell 16 x 38 feet. All a model of convenience, with well lighted, cheerful rooms, and large and commodious closets. The entire building being plumbed for gas. All the windows are being fitted with Kelley's patent blinds that permit of no dust passing between the slats. Mr. J.M. Tenney was the architect, and Mr. J.E. Whitman the builder.

We do love our writing readers!! Read on!

" We are delighted with the two issues of your publication we have received. Thank you for a fine job for one of the most interesting (historically) cities in which I have ever lived.

I enclose check for 1978 dues."

Signed: Rubye L. Crandell
Fort Smith, Arkansas

And on!!!

"The first two issues of THE JOURNAL just came across my desk and I am impressed with both the format and contents of the publication. I was especially glad to see the two edited diaries. Such primary source materials are scarce and valuable assets to researchers....."

Signed: Bobby Roberts, Assistant Librarian
Special Collections, U. of Ark.
Libraries, Fayetteville, Arkansas."

INQUIRIES

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH — Information, documents, and pictures relating to history of St. John's Episcopal Church are needed for incorporation into comprehensive history of the church. If you have such information, or know where such data is located, please contact the St. John's Episcopal Church, 215 North Sixth Street, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901 (Telephone 782-9912), or Dr. A. S. Koenig, III, 922 Lexington Avenue, Fort Smith, 72901.

WAGNER—Need maiden name of Dicey WAGNER, b 1784 N.C. m. Solomon WAGNER, b 1770 VA. Dicey listed on 1850 cu Franklin Co., TN. Children moved to Crawford and Franklin Co., ARK. 1840's. Mrs. Evelyn E. Holleman, Rt. 3, Box 278, Van Buren, Arkansas 72956.

HELP YOUR EDITORS!! Need information about, and early pictures of log house shown in Texas Road story in this issue.

YOUNG—Need parents of Sarah Frances YOUNG, born 28 Oct. 1879 Clinton, Hickman, Co., KY. Died 1 August 1959, Hot Springs Co., Ark. Rubie Grayson, Rt. 2, Box 544, Van Buren, Arkansas 72956.

FROST-CORLEY—Need the parents of Mary (Fanny) FROST born 1849 in MISS. Died 3 Aug. 1882 m to James Pinkerton CORLEY in Logan Co. Ark. Donna J. Spyres, P.O. Box 344, Marble City, Oklahoma 74945.

SPAKES-BOLIN—Who were parents of Sarah SPAKES, born 11 Sept 1857 in Arkadelphia? Died 20 Dec. 1934. Married Charles BOLIN, 900 N. 12, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901.

LYONS-STEWART—Need parents and maiden name of Mary "Molly", b. ca 1858 TN, m. Samuel J. LYONS ca 1870—where? Parents and maiden name of Eulla, b. ca 1872 in Ark. Where? Kathleen O'Kelley, 3809 North 57th Street, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72904.

MILLER-REEVES-TYRRELL—Who were the parents of Benjamin Lewis Miller, B. Ohio 1820, D. MO 1891. M/1 Mary Ann Eliza Reeves, B. 1815, D. 1838. Ch. Sameul and Ben Alphion. m/2 DeMaris TYRRELL, b. 1823, d. 1891 MO. Ch: Charles Wesley, William Henry, Albert Johnson, Edmund. 1850 OHIO Census in Ward 7, Cincinnati. NEED help on wives' families. Mrs. B. D. Miller, 808 North 34, Fort Smith, Ark. 72903.

GEORGE-LOWREY. My gr gr gr grandmother, Minerva George married John Lowrey of S. C., later moved to Calhoun Co. Miss. Who were their parents? Mrs. B. D. Miller.

CHRISTMAN-BEATTY—Need parents and Ch of John Ivey CHRISTMAN b. 1807 S.C., d. 1891, m. Mary Jane BEATTY bo. 1805, d. ca 1842 in LA. Mrs. B. D. Miller.

